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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

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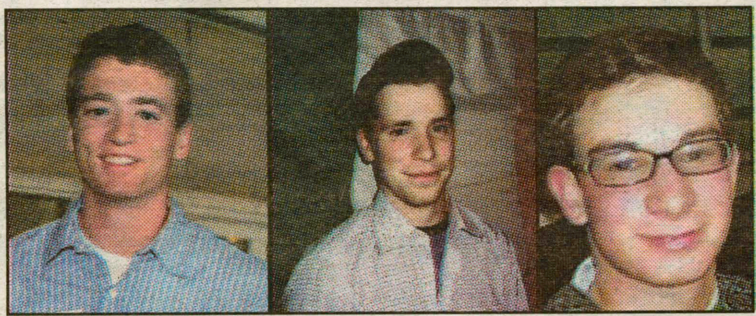
Class President Election Results



Scott Iseman '07, Ryan Morris '08 and Stuart Lombardi '09 were elected to serve as their respective class' president for the next academic year. All three have previously held positions in the student government; Iseman as Student Assembly treasurer, and Morris and Lombardi as class presidents. Elections for the remaining positions will be held this coming week.

For the full story, see page 2.

Thompson resigns post as AD

by Ian Mandel '06
Senior Editor

Dave Thompson will step down as the director of Athletics at the end of the academic year, the Hamilton community was informed last week by Dean of the Faculty David Paris. Thompson announced his decision to the coaching staff on April 7, six weeks after former men's basketball players Luvuyo Mandela '09 and Ramunas Rozgys '09 alleged Thompson pressured them to sign official documents concerning an NCAA violation by the College and later refused them or their attorney access to those documents.

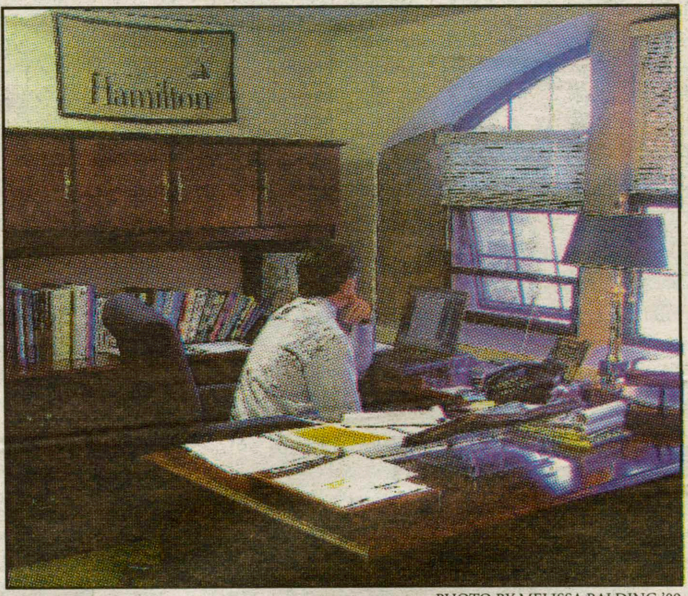


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Dave Thompson recently announced his resignation as athletic director.

According to Thompson, though, his handling of the NCAA violation had nothing to do with his decision to step down.

"I've been thinking about the decision for several weeks," Thompson said. "I felt the time was right and I saw a very attractive opportunity to get back to working more closely with students...I had every opportunity to stay on. My contract runs through June of '07."

Thompson will remain at Hamilton as director of the Fitness Center and Campus Wellness Program, where he will assume new responsibilities.

"I will be involved in the overall operation of the new [fitness] center, including

see Thompson, page 4

Moses '56 speaks at grand opening of Diversity and Social Justice Project

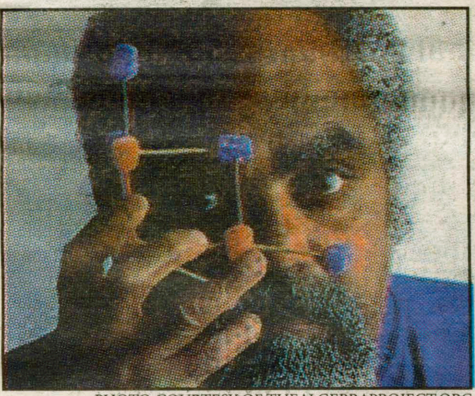


PHOTO COURTESY OF THEALGEBRAPROJECT.ORG

Civil rights leader Bob Moses, a Hamilton alumnus, spoke on campus.

by Emma Furman '07
Editor-in-Chief

The Diversity and Social Justice Project (DSJP) held its grand opening this past Wednesday, April 19 with a discussion led by civil rights activist and founder of The Algebra Project Bob Moses. Professor of Biology and Director of the DSJP Jinnie Garrett introduced Moses, citing the importance of social justice to the DSJP's mission and stating that Moses "used his life to bring about social justice."

Moses, a 1956 Hamilton graduate, became a leading figure of the civil rights movement of the 1960s. He was one of the main organizers of the voter registration drives of Freedom Summer in 1964 and also served as the field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee as well as the co-director of the Council of Federated Organizations. He

see Moses, page 8

Accepted students visit the campus

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Prospective students and their families pose with Al Ham. For full the story, see page 2.

Sarah Griffith this year's recipient of Bristol Fellowship

by Caitlin Rochford '06
News Editor

Sarah Griffith '06 is this year's recipient of the Bristol Fellowship. She will spend the next year traveling to four different countries to study therapeutic horseback riding. Her project is titled, "A Friend in Me: How Horses Become Therapists for the Disabled."

Therapeutic horseback riding includes all forms of therapy using horses. Hippotherapy refers specifically to horses used in a clinical setting with trained therapists. Generally, hippotherapy is used to combat physical disabilities, from minor injuries to hip replacements, but Griffith stressed that it is all encompassing. "Physical and mental disabilities are never totally disconnected in my view," Griffith said, asserting that if you are physically disabled you are unable to participate fully, and that causes psychological problems.

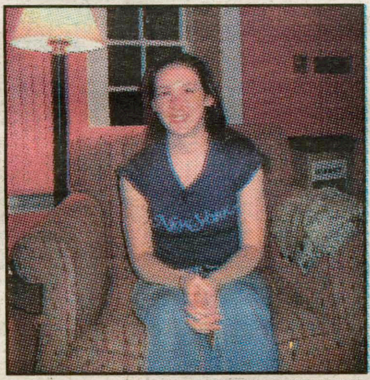
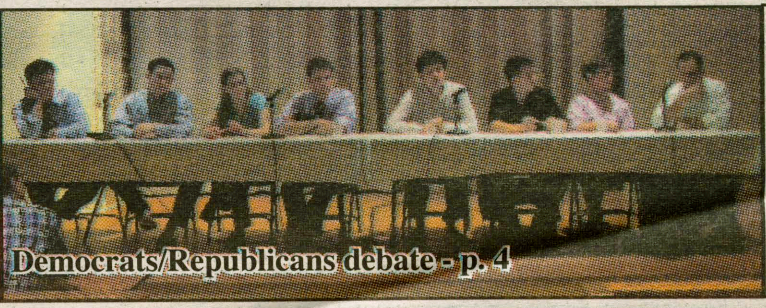


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Sarah Griffith will study hippotherapy next year.

see Griffith, page 6



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New class presidents announced

by Caitlin Rochford '06
News Editor

The results of the class president elections were announced early Friday morning, and the winners are... Scott Iseman '07, Ryan Morris '08 and Stuart Lombardi '09.

Iseman, the new senior class president, was previously Student Assembly treasurer, a member of Honor Court, a resident advisor and a member of the Mock Trial team. Iseman is currently studying abroad in Sweden.

When asked about his goals for the senior class, Iseman said, "The most important issue is making sure that our last year at Hamilton is memorable and fun. This includes organizing class activities throughout the year and topping it all off with a great senior week."

Iseman stressed his experience working in student government as a demonstration of his qualifications for the job. "I have the necessary combination of desire and experience that any class president needs. I want to serve as president and accept the responsibility so that I can help insure a great senior year," Iseman said. "My involvement in leadership positions has helped develop a working relationship with all levels of administrators and staff, which is essential to achieving results."

In an e-mail to *The Spectator*, Iseman wished to thank those on the Hill who helped him with his campaign. Iseman said, "The best part of campaigning was trying to do it from across the Atlantic Ocean. Thankfully, I had a group of friends and supporters who were willing to essentially run my campaign for me. Without their help, running a campaign would have been impossible."

Iseman was unable to be reached for comment after the election results were announced. Iseman's opponent, Brittany Horn '07, is also studying abroad this semester.

Morris is the current sophomore class president. He said that the most important issue he wanted to address for the rising junior class is unity: "With so much of the class going abroad, there will undoubtedly be a much different feeling around campus as many of us adjust to not seeing faces we have come to know so well throughout our first two years on the Hill." Morris said that he looked forward to working with the class representatives to plan events for the class.

After being informed of the election results, Morris wanted to express his thanks to the class. "I want to thank everyone who voted," Morris said. "I am greatly appreciative that you have put your trust in me once again. I also want to acknowledge my opponent, Katie Childs; she has represented our class as secretary-treasurer for two years, and her tremendous performance should not go unnoticed. To the class of 2008: your support means a great deal to me, and I promise that I will do my very best to make sure next year is memorable for us all."

Morris also commented on the other election winners. "I was very pleased to hear that Scott Iseman and Stuart Lombardi were also elected to represent their respective classes. I know both candidates personally, not only from their work with Student Assembly, but also outside as amiable individuals. I am greatly looking forward to seeing them on the assembly in the coming year."

Lombardi, the current freshman class president, is also a Hamilton College Tour Guide and a member of the Mock Trial team. Lombardi expressed the importance, during the coming academic year, of having a class president who is able to respond to the needs of the class: "What's most important is that I react swiftly, firmly and correctly to issues as they arise and that I continue to shape a bold and aggressive agenda."

Lombardi said that one of his goals for the coming year is to make available to students the ratings that students give to professors. "One of my most important plans for next year is to get the numerical ratings that students give professors in professor reviews available to the student body. If administrators use the numerical data to determine which professors should be granted tenure (and they do), then students should be able to use the same data to determine which courses they want to take."

After being informed of the results of the election, Lombardi said, "I'm looking forward to another eventful and fun year."

Lombardi addressed his opponent, Erica Dressler '09. "Erica ran a great campaign. I'm confident that she has wonderful ideas for our class. I hope she will share her ideas with the class officers, or with me, so that together we can make next year even more productive that this year was."

Voting for this election began at midnight on April 19 and ended at 11:59 p.m. on the same day. An e-mail was sent to each freshman, sophomore and junior with a link to a site to vote for their preferred candidate. There was also a laptop available for voting during the day in Beineke for students who do not have computer access, and members of Student Assembly were there to answer any questions and encourage students to vote.

In accordance with Student Assembly by-laws, there was a 24-hour waiting period between the end of voting and the announcement of the results, to allow time to contest the election. The results of the election were viewed by the members of the Student Assembly Elections Committee and an e-mail with the results was sent to the Hamilton community early Friday morning, according to Student Assembly Elections Chair Kara Novak '08.

The following week, elections will be held for the remaining student government positions. This includes class treasurer, class representative, Judicial Board representative, Appeals Board representative and Honor Court representative. The process will be the same for this election. Novak explained that the class president elections are held the week before the rest of the elections in order to allow those who do not win class president to run for another office. This year, Katie Childs '08 will be the only student who will run in the second election after losing the first. She will run for treasurer for the class of 2008.

The student body will elect, for each class, one treasurer, five class representatives, three Judicial Board representatives and two Honor Court representatives. Additionally, the entire student body will elect two Appeals Board representatives. During the voting process for this string of elections, there will be two laptops available in Beineke.

The following students will be running for positions in the coming elections: for Appeals Board, Casey Deak '07, Deanne Katz '08; for Class of 2007 Treasurer, Mark Meigher '07, Quang Nguyen '07; for Class of 2007 Representative, Sara Carhart '07, Melissa Coffey '07, Neal Frei '07, Tucker Hutchinson '07, Jae Lee '07; for Class of 2007 Judical Board Representative, Michael Blasie '07, Neal Frei '07, Yubo Lu '07; for Class of 2007 Honor Court Representative, Maggie Chan '07, Kara Feigeles '07, Brian Monterroso '07; for Class of 2008 Treasurer, Katie Childs '08, Greg Ray '08; for Class of 2008 Representative, Mikhail Bell '08, Allie Berkeley '08, Katie Goodwin '08, Sarah Patterson '08, Adam Polonski '08, Will Reid '08; for Class of 2008 Judicial Board Representative, Alex Chaconas '08, Melissa Kong '08, Caitlin McGilley '08, Katie Painter '08; for Class of 2008 Honor Court Representative, Deanne Katz '08, Sarah Levitan '08, Chip Smith '08; for Class of 2009 Treasurer, Hillary Fixelle '09; for Class of 2009 Representative, Amelia Barry '09, Grant Blosser '09, Alex Caruso '09, Marty Connor '09, Jessie Dietz '09, Allison Gaston-Enholm '09, Xiaobo Ma '09, Emily Smith '09; for Class of 2009 Judicial Board Representative, Alexandra Hutchison '09, Abby Jones '09, Ashlyn Lovejoy '09, David Schlifka '09; for Class of 2009 Honor Court Representative, Kasey Miller '09 and Allie Shpall '09. Platforms for all the candidates can be found on pages 10-12 of this issue.

Novak extended a wish of good luck to all of the candidates, "The Elections Committee would like to say good luck to all the nominees and remind them to be respectful of the opposition and abstain from acts of bribery, etc. The Committee also encourages everyone to vote and do so wisely."

Accepted students enjoy beautiful Hamilton weather

by Martin Connor '09
Associate News Editor

On Monday, high school students from over 30 different states found there way up the Hill for Hamilton College's annual Accepted Student Open House. Prospective students began arriving on campus at 8:15 a.m. for a long day of events structured to immerse the potential members of the class of 2010 in the Hamilton atmosphere and display the numerous and wonderful opportunities the College has to offer.

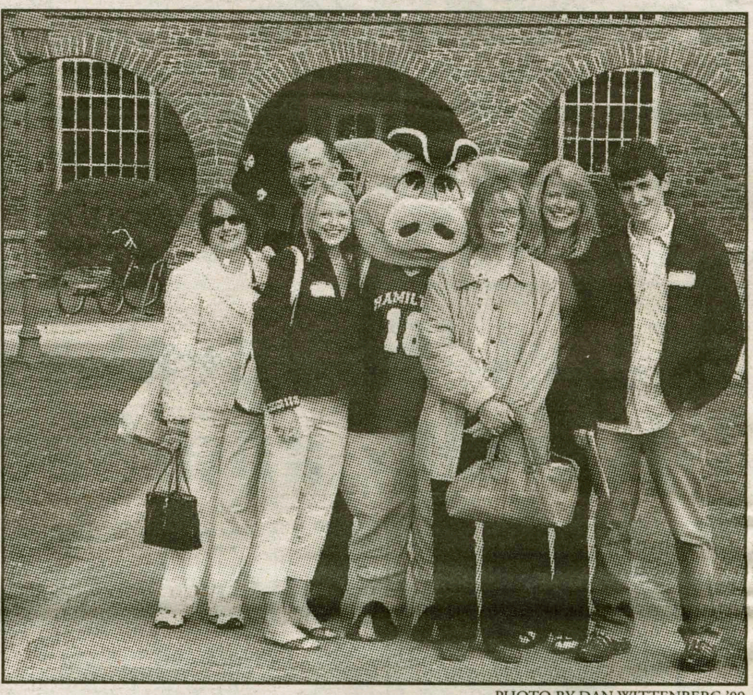

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '09

Prospective students and their families pose with Al Ham, the jovial Hamilton pig, during the Accepted Student Open House.

The morning hours offered a variety of options for prospective students and their families seeking to experience Hamilton first-hand. From 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. students were invited to attend Hamilton classes and were provided with a full listing of spring courses, all of which were open for prospective students to sit in on. Parents were also given a chance to experience Hamilton academics. Those that chose not to accompany their sons and daughters in sampling real classes had the opportunity to attend mock classes with the Hamilton faculty to gain a taste of academics on the hill.

At 11:15 a.m. prospective students and their families were invited to Wellin Hall for welcoming speeches by both President Joan Hinde Stewart and Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Monica C. Inzer. Following the opening remarks a luncheon was held in a tent erected for the occasion behind the Christian-Johnson building. Prospective students and their families were able to eat lunch with members of the Hamilton faculty. "During lunch I met with a chemistry professor and we talked about different opportunities like internships and research as well as teacher-student relationships," said David Mavricos, a prospective student.

After lunch a number of academic and student life seminars, which, according to the events schedule were to, "expose you to campus culture," were held. The various topics were: The Career Center, Diversity Forum, Life on the Hill, Off-Campus Study, Pre-Health professions, Pre-Law, Research Opportunities, Residence Hall Tours and The Advantages of Hamilton's Open Curriculum.

The day ended with a Student Activities Fair. The fair, held in the Annex, provided tables for Hamilton's numerous student organizations to show off their stuff to prospective students. Associate Dean of Admission Susan Donegan, who was in charge of planning and organizing the Open House, said, "I think the Student Organization Fair in the afternoon was particularly effective this year. We had a great turnout of enthusiastic student groups and we really appreciated their willingness to share their Hamilton experiences with our guests. The prospective students loved talking with current organization members and I know many of them left campus with plans to get involved next year." The fair also included a raffle for prospective students and a visit by Al Ham, Hamilton's pig mascot.

Campus tours were offered at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., with over twenty separate tour groups throughout the day.

Overall the Open House was a great success from every perspective. The beautiful weather and hard work of the Admissions department made the Open House a wonderful experience for prospective students. David Mavricos, who has also been admitted to and is seriously considering attending Colgate University and Dartmouth College, commented that the open has been "a great experience." Mavricos then added, "It's

*see **Open House**, page 4*

Adler: A Hamilton tradition

by Alex Morgan '09
News Writer

Hamilton recently held the 40th annual Adler Conference, an event that brings members of the community, students, alumni, faculty, staff and administrators together to discuss campus issues. The event was known as the Higby Conference until 1970 and held as a retreat at a lake in the vicinity of the college.

Sophomores Chip Smith and Sarah Patterson organized the event as co-chairs along with a committee composed of staff and alumni. They solicited help from the community to find teams of facilitators to lead the discussions at the conference.

"We were interested in taking an active role in the Hamilton community. It is easy to critique aspects of Hamilton without actively working towards solutions, and we felt the need to step up and try to optimize Hamilton," said Smith.

Smith and Patterson sent letters of intent to the Student Assembly president and vice president and were interviewed twice before being notified of their nomination.

They developed a theme for the conference, "Optimizing Hamilton's Educational Environment" and conducted a survey of the Hamilton community to determine what issues were of concern to its members. They then solicited a committee and worked closely with committee members to plan and organize the event.

Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Accessibility Berenecea Johnson gave the keynote speech at this year's conference. Johnson's speech focused on the need for everyone to make a commitment to the concept of community. She believes that the Hamilton college community is full of opportunities to be more open minded, inclusive and dedicated to optimizing the educational environment.

"Any time you have a chance to have a dialogue and give suggestions about how to improve the community that you live in it is a gift," said Johnson. "The conference is an opportunity to share ideas and rededicate [ourselves] to being a real community."

Conference attendees broke into small groups led by facilitators and discussed a series of questions on topics ranging from racism on campus to sexual misconduct. These questions were discussed in three 50-minute sessions, and a large group discussion was held at the end of the event.

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Members of the Hamilton community discuss issues concerning the Hamilton educational experience.

"As facilitators we acted as recorders, we stimulated and led discussions and could also contribute to the discussion," said Michael Blasie '08 when asked about his role as a facilitator. "One attendee put it nicely when she stated that while the turnout [for the conference] was not ideal, the small group layout worked extremely well and allowed for thorough and provocative discussion."

One question asked attendees to describe the level of racism they felt to be present at the college. Another asked attendees to give their opinions on the rise of sex tapes. There have already been a number of incidents involving individuals who have taped sex acts and

*see **Adler**, page 6*

New parking lottery

by Susan Stanton '09
News Writer

In response to suggestions made by the student body, this year the Department of Campus Safety has decided to change the parking lottery procedure. In the past, the numbers students received for the housing lottery were also used for preference in parking. Director Campus Safety Patricia Ingalls, explained the reason for changing the procedure, stating, "some students have had valid concerns that having a poor housing lottery number not only leads to the loss of one's preference of housing, but it may also lead to one receiving parking that is distant to one's residence hall."

Using one number for both the housing lottery and parking preference allows students with high numbers to receive their choice of housing and parking, while students with lower numbers do not receive the housing they want or the advantage of parking near their dorm. By using two different numbers, if students do not get the housing assignments they want, they may still be able to park their vehicles closer to where they lives if their parking lottery numbers are better.

Ingalls cautions that "there are no guarantees in the new system, however. All numbers are generated randomly by a computer system, and it is possible for a student to receive two numbers close to the top or bottom of their class."

The parking lottery numbers will be sent to the student body through campus mail after the housing lottery. After that, the online registration program will then be open to all students for registration.

Other than the change with parking lottery numbers, the rest of the parking registration process will be the same. Students will still go online to submit their car information and select their preference for parking lots. In mid-May, e-mails will be sent out to all students who completed registration notifying them as to which parking lots their cars have been placed.

Any questions regarding the changes to the parking lottery should be sent to safety@ hamilton.edu.

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

The new parking lottery system will not be connected to a student's housing lottery number.

IVORY TOWERS

Donor Gives Cruise Ship to R.I. Colleges

By Associated Press

WARREN, R.I. -- Three colleges will share an unusual donation from a local philanthropist -- a 175-foot cruise ship that has been plying the Mississippi River.

Shipbuilder Luther Blount announced he will give the ship, called the Niagara Prince, to Rhode Island College, Roger Williams University and Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston when it retires from service in the fall.

"I got a pile of ships," said Blount, 89, owner of American Canadian Caribbean Lines.

He said he expects the universities to sell the $6.5 million boat and split the proceeds. He offered the gift "because I kind of owe something to each one of them."

Blount graduated from Wentworth in 1937 with a degree in machine construction and tool design. He received honorary doctorates from the other schools.

NATIONAL NEWS

Rove Surrenders Some Control in Shake-Up

By TERENCE HUNT
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON -- White House political mastermind Karl Rove surrendered a key policy role Wednesday and press secretary Scott McClellan resigned in an escalation of a Bush administration shake-up driven by Republican anxieties.

Rove gave up his responsibilities as chief policy coordinator, a position he assumed just over a year ago that strengthened his influence over matters ranging from homeland security and domestic policy to the economy and national security. The promotion had left him stretched too thin in the eyes of some officials, as the White House grappled with mounting problems.

With Wednesday's change, Rove will be able to focus more on politics, fundraising and big-picture thinking with the approach of the November congressional elections, officials said.

WORLD NEWS

Big Quake Rattles Distant Region of Russia

By Associated Press

MOSCOW -- A major earthquake hit a distant, sparsely populated region of Russia's Far East early Friday, causing unknown damage and possible casualties, an emergency official said. The U.S. Geological Survey and Japan's Meteorological Agency estimated the quake's magnitude at 7.7.

The quake hit around 12:45 p.m. local time in Koryak region, nearly 4,350 miles east of Moscow and some 600 miles north of the largest city in the area, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, said Oleg Kotosanov, a duty officer with the regional emergency situations ministry.

Kotosanov told The Associated Press by telephone that there were reports of damage in some villages of the Pacific region, and that emergency officials were flying by helicopter to several locations. Federal emergency officials in Moscow said they had no information about the quake.

"It's the largest event in this area since 1900," said A.B. Wade, a spokeswoman for the USGS. "It's a sparsely populated area; up to 2,000 people were exposed to intensive shaking."

The Russian quake posed no tsunami risk to the western United States and Canada, according to the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center.

Russia's north Pacific coast sits along a major tectonic plate and is frequently hit by earthquakes and volanic eruptions.

Democrats and Republicans go head-to-head in debate

by Meredith Kennedy '09
News Writer

This past Wednesday, a debate between the College Democrats and the College Republicans took place in the Chapel. The debate was organized and moderated by Paul Bleiberg '06 and included controversial topics like the war in Iraq, immigration reform, lobbying reform, energy policy and NSA spying. Questions from the audience, which were well represented on both sides, were also welcomed at the end.

Debating for the Democrats were Associate Dean of Students Philip Klinker, Jonathan Kuhl '06, Ian Mandel '06 and Rachel Horowitz '09. On the Republican side were Visiting Instructor of Government Mack Mariani, Stuart Lombardi '09, Kevin O'Connor '09 and Ben Noble '08. A coin was tossed to determine who answered first, and each side was given a one-minute response, followed by a four-minute open debate.

The first topic of debate was the war in Iraq and the question over whether the troops should be withdrawn. The Democrats had the floor first, and Klinkner started off by saying that "there's a consensus that we are going to be drawing out troops gradually," and the realism of the situation, that Iraqis have to be able to make it on their own, should be recognized.

Lombardi on the Republican side responded that, like John Kerry even stated once, "we have to stay until the Iraqis are ready for us to leave." Mariani added that the burden has been placed on the United States disproportionately, and as a superpower and leader of the world, war is a responsibility we have to take on.

The next issue to be argued was regarding immigration laws and whether Congress should pass a law increasing border security in order to regulate illegal immigration. Klinkner described how President Bush and the Republican Party take opposite stances on this issue. The Democrats agree with Bush on immigration, but disagree with the Republican Party, who think a border policy needs to be both created and enforced.

The panel also discussed the skyrocketing oil prices and how the problem should be dealt with. Lombardi believes that "the answer is in private industry," and "not in government," as Noble added. Mandel, arguing for the Democrats, made the case that the country should make a strong effort to switch to renewable energy, a policy decision that would benefit the United States economically, environmentally and in national security.

O'Connor rebutted that "at the current time we don't have cars that run on hugs and fuzzy feelings," and we have the capacity to make environmental progress, with oil as our safety valve.

Overall, the debate was very thorough and well received on both ends. It was a great way for faculty and students of different class years to get involved with each other and to voice contrasting opinions on important issues plaguing our country today. Kuhl exclaimed that he was "very pleased with the way the debate went," and was "glad that the informal format involved the audience because it gave the debate more of an interactive quality that previous debates have lacked."

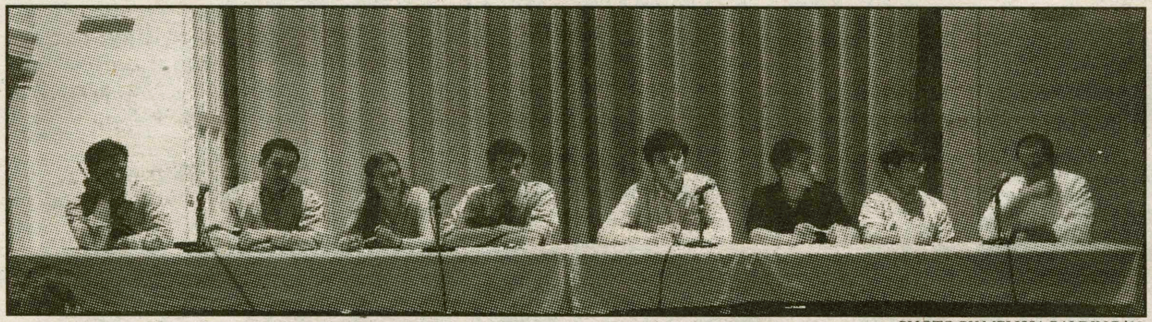

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

College Democrats debate College Republicans on a variety of topics.

Accepted student open house brings a crowd to campus

*from **Open House**, page 2*

really helped me, or actually it's made my decision even more difficult."

Hend Abdallah, a prospective student from New Jersey who is also considering the University of Michigan and The College of William and Mary, expressed her feelings about Hamilton and the Open House, "I think it's really nice. The dorms are great and the people are tremendously kind. They just come up to you and answer your questions and show you where to go."

The administration and admission department are especially pleased with the success of this year's Open House. The format of the event was changed from past years to a one day rather than two day event. However, turnout was excellent with 262 prospective students in attendance, coincidentally the same number as last year, yet due to the fact that fewer students were admitted this year the number reflects a higher turnout by percentage of total admitted students. Between Sunday and Tuesday night forty students were also hosted overnight on campus.

Everyone in the Hamilton community worked together to make the event the success it was. "Members of the entire campus community came together to make this a terrific experience for our guests and I am very grateful to all who participated. Our Senior Interns and tour guides are very busy during the month of April yet went out of their way to be of assistance on Monday. Current students, faculty, staff members, physical plant members and the Bon Appetit staff all did a great job making the prospective students and their parents feel welcome on campus," said Donegan.

Stuart Lombardi '09, current freshman class president and tour guide commented on the success of the Open House, "Accepted students now have a big decision to make. I'm confident that the Accepted Student Open House made their decision easier. I talked with many accepted students who, over the course of the day, decided to come here. I made my mind up at the Open House last year, and it's good to hear that many students enjoyed this year's event as much as I enjoyed last year's."

Monica C. Inzer, Dean of Admission and Financial Aid, said, "At this point in the cycle, what the Admission Office says or does isn't important to admitted families; they want to talk to students and faculty, sample the food, check out the residence halls, and get a glimpse of what their Hamilton experience might be." The Open House did just that and more. Inzer added, "We in the Admission Office couldn't be more please with the event or more proud of the Hamilton community for coming together for this very important day."

The Hamilton student and faculty alike are eager with anticipation at the prospect of the class of 2010 joining the Hamilton Community next year, a reflection of the hard work of the Admission Office and whole of the Hamilton community as well, both on Monday and throughout the year.

Thompson will now direct fitness center; Viscomi will be AD

*from **Thompson**, page 1*

new programs related to campus wellness and recreation. Intramural, club sports and Hamtrek are a few of the areas I will be active in. I will teach in the physical education program and remain an assistant in the swimming program," Thompson explained.

Thompson denied suggestions that he was forced to step down as director of Athletics by President Joan Hinde Stewart or any other members of the Hamilton administration.

"I was not asked to step down. I welcomed the opportunity to move into this position," he said.

Executive Director of Communications Mike Debraggio also denied that Stewart asked Thompson to step down in the wake of the controversy surrounding the NCAA violation and Thompson's actions towards Mandela and Rozgys.

When asked if Stewart asked Thompson to step down, Debraggio answered, "no." When pressed on the issue, he said, "There's no connection... The decision to step down was Dave Thompson's."

According to Thompson, he did discuss his "thoughts regarding this decision with collagues on the faculty and in the administration including President Stewart," but was adamant that the decision was his alone.

When reached at home, Stewart declined to answer questions on the matter. Paris did not respond to an e-mail or a message left on his cell-phone.

Associate Athletic Director Sue Viscomi will assume the role of acting director until the College completes a national search for a permanent replacement. Viscomi, who has been Associate Director for nine years, said she was ready to do what she could to serve the College.

"I'm willing to do whatever the College needs me to do, and if it's to serve in an interim capacity while they do a national search, I'm happy to serve in that capacity," she said.

Viscomi said she was surprised by Thompson's decision, but was glad he's remaining at Hamilton.

"I think Dave has done a great job for the Athletic Department, and I think the entire Department is wishing him well in his new appointment as the director of the Fitness Center," she said. "We're very happy that he's going to stay on staff and continue to work."

According to Viscomi, Thompson's new job in Athletics is a newly created position. She said she believed he would report to the new athletic director. When asked why Thompson would voluntarily resign his position to assume a subordinate one, Debraggio rejected the assertion that Thompson had been "demoted."

"I don't think Dave Thompson views this position as a demotion, but as an opportunity to serve the College in a different capacity," Debraggio said.

Thompson has been Athletics Director since he replaced former men's basketball coach Thomas Murphy in 2002. Thompson asserted he was proud of his work heading Athletics, especially his work with students and coaches.

"I am most proud of the positive role our coaches have played in the lives of the students they coach. We have an excellent staff and they understand the demands of athletics and the priority of academics. Our coaches have become more visible as faculty members and have become more active in the overall mission of the College," he explained. "I like to think that I have played a part in fostering that dynamic...Overall I have really enjoyed my time as Athletics Director and I am very appreciative to have had the opportunity to serve the College in this capacity."

Thompson has worked at Hamilton since 1983. He coached both the men's and women's swimming teams prior to becoming Athletics Director. In that capacity, he became the first coach in New York State to guide a men's and women's team to the Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association Championship title, a feat he completed in 2000.

Viscomi expressed excitement about the opening of the new fitness center, slated to be operational September 1 of this year.

"It's very exciting to see it progress from one stage, to stage two, to stage three," she said. "It's been fun to watch the building progress."

Thompson praised Viscomi as being fully qualified to assume the interim position.

"Sue is an experienced, versatile and talented athletic administrator. She is well informed on all significant athletic issues and is clearly up to the task. We are fortunate to have such a competent professional available to fill this rôle," Thompson said.

A national search will be conducted to find Thompson's replacement. The details of that search have not yet been released.

The Spectator

Staff Editorial

The Aids Hike for Life, next Sunday, April 30, is a great opportunity to raise money and awareness for an important cause. It is a community service event that is attractive to students; participants get exercise, the weather is nice and it's a nice break during the end of the semester rush. *The Spectator* urges everyone who is able to participate. This year, participation should be higher than ever, as the Hike has been scheduled the weekend after the general housing lottery. For years, these two events have taken place at conflicting times, and most students had no choice but to be present at the housing lottery. The AIDS Hike for Life is an important event in terms of raising funds and awareness, and is one that is attractive to students who may not have time to participate in longer term community service projects. *The Spectator* would like to applaud those that saw to the scheduling of these two events on different weekends so that student participation in the Hike could be maximized.

While this important event was well-coordinated, the staff of *The Spectator* would also like to express concern that other college events and speakers were not as well coordinated over the course of the academic year.

The last month of the semester is a busy time for students as we write final papers, get ready for finals, finalize summer plans, tie up loose ends before summer, and in the case of some, make post-graduation plans. It would ease our stress if the College would take this into consideration when scheduling events. In the month of April alone there were over 40 of speakers scheduled to come to campus. During the other seven months of the academic year there were about 70 lectures scheduled. Over half of our lectures for the year take place in our last full month of classes, a time when students generally already find themselves busy and overwhelmed with work inside and outside of classes. Many times, students would like to attend a lecture, but find themselves too burdened with work at this stressful time of the year to be able to spend even an hour or two of their evenings at an event. Furthermore, during April several lectures are often scheduled for the same day, sometimes even the same time, making it increasingly difficult for students to choose which lecture to attend. As a result, we miss out on wonderful opportunities to hear fascinating people speak at our College.

The Spectator staff would like to ask programs and departments to take these issues into consideration when scheduling speakers and events for the upcoming academic year, so that we can continue to make the most of our experience here at Hamilton and take advantage of as many learning opportunities as possible.

Interested in writing for News?

E-mail Caitlin at crochfor@hamilton.edu or Emma at efurman@hamilton.edu

The Spectator

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Mira Nair speaks on Hill

by Brianna Felton '09
News Writer

Every year, the family of Winston J. Tolles enables Hamilton College to bring a speaker to the Hill. In the 2006 installment of this series, the campus was fortunate enough to enjoy the company of documentary filmmaker, Mira Nair. Mira Nair was chosen by the comparative literature department because her work "crosses many boundaries."

Mira Nair has produced and directed a great number of films, including her recent film "Vanity Fair," starring Reese Witherspoon. She began in this industry following her education in her native country of India as well as Harvard University. Nair started at a time when documentaries were not in high demand, but money was never her objective. Her purpose, which also became the topic of her lecture, is answering the question, "What is the role of an artist in any society?"

In her lecture "Between Two Worlds: An Evening with Mira Nair," she began by explaining to the audience why she became a film maker. Her first glimpse at the fictional world began with the traveling mythological theatre that used to come into her small town in India. Her interest progressed into literature, but at Harvard they never quite studied the books that interested her. It was at this institution that she began to find interest in documentary film making. Her thesis advisor and mentor, Peter Hutton, spoke at Hamilton a few weeks ago. Hutton exhibited

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Mira Nair lectures on her experiences as a film maker.

an uncompromising nature that Nair, too, has for her films.

Nair used a little bit of humor to describe a more serious subject. She spoke of the separation between the worlds brought on by 9/11, particularly the worlds of Americans and people considered to be Arab. Though most of us realize that not every non-American is Arab or a terrorist, Nair feels that cinema is a way to break down these barriers. This is why in her "9/11," a collection of movies about that day, she chose to focus on a different angle of 9/11. Her film focuses on the Hamdani family; how a mother's son is first considered to be a terrorist and then a hero. Unfortunately, this well directed film was not picked up by any American film companies because it was considered to be anti-American.

Overall, the purpose of the 11 minute film was to show that the two worlds are not that different. Nair quotes Spike Lee in saying "if we don't tell our own stories, no one else will." So Mira Nair helps people such as herself to tell their stories. She started a foundation called Maisha, which takes children from Africa and India and helps them to develop as film makers. Her goal is to show them that there should be no borders within art.

Nair provided a humorous but enlightening lecture on Easter evening. Visitng Professor of History Scott Macdonald felt that she had the "directness and the street smarts it takes to make a film that matters." Many students who attended the lecture felt she did a wonderful job, and a handful even wanted to help her with her cause. She encouraged those who could to help support the Maisha fund. Students can look forward to Nair's next film, "The Namesake," out later this year.

Adler Conference draws small crowd

from Adler, page 3

broadcast the footage over the internet without informing the other people involved.

The conference used Dr. Edward de Bono's Six Hat Method from his book Six Thinking Hats. Each group cycled through the six different hat colors of red, white, black, yellow, green and blue, all symbolizing a separate approach to discussion.

"I hope the conference will accomplish better community relationships between administration, faculty, staff, alumni and students. That we can appreciate different cultures on campus and be thankful we have the opportunity to better ourselves by meeting people from all walks of life. Respect for other people is the key word here."

The red hat, representing emotion, is used to "clear the air" and asks individuals how they feel about a topic. The white hat, representing information, asks what information must be known about a topic before ideas are formed.

The black hat stands for caution, asking group members to discuss what potential problems they need to consider before deciding how to approach a specific problem. Yellow stands for optimism and asks group members to search for potential in the solutions they had developed to a problem.

Green symbolizes alternatives and asks for group members to discuss what other solutions might also fix a problem. Blue forces members to strategize about how to put solutions into practice.

A formal report complete with the notes of conference and outline of the process for organizing the conference will be compiled and presented to the Student Assembly (SA) at the end of this semester. There was also a drawing for gift certificates to local restaurants for the attendees.

Diversity and Social Justice Project Assistant Janet Turvey was both a committee member and facilitator for the conference. She hopes that the conference will contribute to a better sense of community:

"I hope the conference will accomplish better community relationships between administration, faculty, staff, alumni and students and that we can appreciate different cultures on campus and be thankful we have the opportunity to better ourselves by meeting people from all walks of life. Respect for other people is the key word here."

Griffith will study horseback therapy next year

*from **Griffith**, page 1*

Griffith said that horseback riding not only allows the disabled to participate in physical therapy in a different way, but that the privilege and responsibility of being able to rise and care for the horse provides emotional benefits. "Responsibility for a thing that weighs ten times more than you do is very beneficial," Griffith said.

Griffith will first travel to Brazil, where she will attend the Federation of Riding for the Disabled International Congress. This is an organization that coordinates disabled riding programs around the world.

Next, Griffith's travels will take her to Australia, where she will work with the "Smiley" program to increase public awareness about therapeutic riding. Griffith's third stop will be in Singapore, to encourage farms to start therapy programs.

Finally, during her stay in Germany, Griffith will work with an autism specialist who runs a hippotherapy clinic. Hippotherapy has also been shown to be very beneficial for people with developmental disabilities, cerebral palsy and learning disorders. Griffith explained that a non-traditional therapy is often helpful for these types of patients. "With a lot of mental disorders," Griffith said, "Kids reach a plateau in a traditional [therapy] setting."

"It's really fascinating-the range of people and disorders that can benefit," Griffith said.

When asked why horses, more than other animals, have such a positive therapeutic effect, Griffith said, "With horses, any rider will tell you that there's an emotional connection with the horse. This creature can sense your emotions, but not be judgmental about it."

PHOTO COURTESY OF MSBTHERAPY.COM

Hippotherapy helps patients with physical, psychological and developmental disabilities.

During her junior year, Griffith studied abroad in New Zealand, and it was this trip that sparked her interest in traveling. "I can't stop traveling," she said. "There are so many things I need to do and see."

Griffith has been riding horses since the age of five, and she rode competitively throughout high school. "I never imagined life without horses," she said. "I always knew they would be a part of my life."

Griffith temporarily lost touch with riding during her first two years at college because she was so busy with engagements at Hamilton. But during the summer between her sophomore and junior year, Griffith volunteered at a therapeutic horse farm and worked at a local farm. Griffith found that she felt more at home in these types of settings. "There was such a contrast from competition where everything is about appearance," Griffith said.

Griffith described the atmosphere at these farms as "down to earth" and "not pretentious."

"I was so amazed that this other culture existed," she said. "I had been experiencing a discontent with the riding culture, but I was unwilling to live without horses." Thus, Griffith found a way to incorporate her love of horses with her interest in service and helping those with disabilities.

Ultimately, Griffith would like to use her experience next year to start her own hippotherapy program for battered women and underprivileged children. "I would like to negate the history of privilege that comes with riding," Griffith said.

During her time at Hamilton College, Griffith has been active in many different organizations. She served as a tutor at Martin Luther King Middle School, and she is a member of the Womyn's Center, the Association for Women in Science and the Intercultural Women's Empowerment Series. She is a physics major and a math minor.

When asked what aspect of her Hamilton education she thinks will help her most next year, Griffith said, "Definitely the work ethic from the physics major. I learned early on that I couldn't cram for a test or do homework the day before it was due."

"The greatest challenge yields the greatest reward," Griffith added. "I really do believe that."

The Bristol Fellowship was created by the family of William M. Bristol Jr. '17. The fellowship allows students to study outside of the country for one year and to study an area of great personal interest. Mr. Bristol was one of six generations of Bristols to attend Hamilton College. His great-great-grandfather was one of the college's first trustees and a founder of the Hamilton-Oneida Academy, which became Hamilton College in 1793.

Students experience lecture on Caribbean political thought

by Kara Labs '09
News Writer

Three Hamilton courses focused on Caribbean studies invited three well-known lecturers who are committed to social justice throughout the world for their panel, "Caribbean Political Thought in Transition," on Tuesday April 18. The panel consisted of eighty-one year old writer and political activist Eusi Kwayana, Professor of African American Studies and Political Science at Syracuse University Dr. Horace Campbell, and filmmaker and founder of the Working People's Alliance in Guyana, Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine. The panel, which took place in the Science Center, discussed a variety of topics related to the important role that the Caribbean plays in world politics as well as the attitude that it has in relation to the rest of the world.

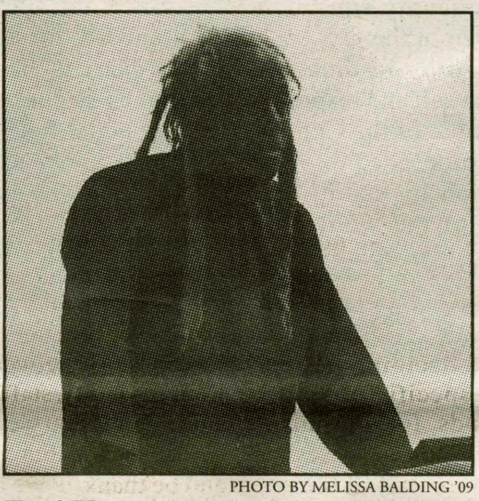


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Eusi Kwayana speaks at the "Caribbean Policital Thought in Transition" panel.

Kwayana is one of the oldest living founders of the Working People's Alliance in Guyana and has recently published a book entitled, "The Morning After," which examines violence in Guyana and the Caribbean and the political basis behind it. He delivered his presentation, entitled "Caribbean Economic Thinking: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," about the need to find the "inner hidden truths" in the world today.

Everyone has had economic interests since the days of Columbus and mercantilism. Even people who did not have much found a way to get the crops that they grew to the market because they had self-respect and self-reliance. He gave the example of Maroons who were brought to Suriname on slave ships, but when the ships arrived on shore, they fled into the forest and stayed there. They liberated themselves and started their own economy in the jungle that has lasted to this very day. They showed a great amount of strength and willpower in the face of terrible times.

In Guyana, a similar event happened. Slaves there banded together, saved money and bought land after they were freed from bankrupt plantation owners. They did this despite the fact that there were laws passed in order to not let freed slaves own land. After they had a hold of the land, they set up a small system of self-government, which included some form of a stable economy that was necessary to survive.

Dr. Horace Campbell, native of Jamaica, has published many books, including "Rasta and Resistance: From Marcus Garvey to Walter Rodney" and "Reclaiming Zimbabwe: The Exhaustion of the Patriarchal Model of Liberation." His presentation was entitled "Cuba, Africa, and Liberation: Africa Yesterday, Latin America Tomorrow." Cuito Cuanavale, in Angola, Africa played an important role in African history as well as the history of the world. This was the site of a 1988 battle in a war that raged for years in South Africa. This battle led to the release of Nelson Mandela, aided by the Cuban government. He described liberation as a way to provide a place for humanity and love and unleash the creativity of humans, and he gave the example of the numerous countries turning to democracy in Latin America.

The final panel speaker, Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, a former professor of political pcience at the University of Guyana, spoke about Walter Rodney, a scholar and revolutionary in Guyana who was assassinated in the 1940s. Roopnaraine described Rodney as a modest, creative thinker, who was open minded and the least dogmatic of any revolutionary. He had a lot of self-determination and fought the doctrines of the Europeans to form a new society.

This panel was sponsored by students from Africana Studies 495, History 388, History 293, as well as the West Indian and African Association, the Dean of Faculty's Office and HEOP.

$700,000 anonymous donation creates facility for outdoor ed

by Emma Furman '07
Editor-in-Chief

Thanks to a recent $700,000 anonymous donation, contractors arrived this past Monday to begin the conversion of the former Glen House, located next to the Little Pub, into the Hamilton Outdoor Leadership Center. The building will be the new home for the Director of the Adventure Program Andrew Jillings, a new assistant for the program, who will be hired in the upcoming months, as well as all of the campus groups and programs that fall under Jillings' direction.

New space will be created, both inside in the form of offices, storage space and a great room complete with working fireplace, and outside in the form of a deck designed to seat 50, to accommodate student activities such as meetings, classes and Adirondack Adventure functions.

Adirondack Adventure (AA) is an eight-day program for incoming freshmen that takes place before orientation. Roughly 240 freshmen embark on 27 different kayaking, canoeing, rock climbing and backpacking adventure trips into the wilderness of upstate New York, guided by groups of two or three leaders. According to its website, the program "contributes greatly to students' community feeling at Hamilton" and helps incoming freshmen form lasting friendships and acclimate to life at college.

The new facilities will provide space for activities at the beginning of the program before students embark on their separate trips as well as for a variety of other activities on campus throughout the year.

According to Jillings, the most prominent room in the house, the great room, will be "open as much as possible for students." The room, still containing a set of National Geographics dating from as early as 1938 from the previous inhabitants, will function as a social space for students. Jillings stressed how he hoped that students would use this room as a place to "come and hang out." He also mentioned how having such a space will be particularly beneficial to first year AA students during the "first six weeks [of college] when [they're] trying to make friends."

The room will also serve as a meeting space for groups on campus, such as the Hamilton Outing Club (HOC), as well as, Jillings hopes, local community clubs, such as the ADK and the Root Glen Committee.

The great room covers a sizeable space, with its high ceilings and light-embracing windows, and will be completed with the finishing touches of a working fireplace and a kitcheonette off to one side.

Facing out onto the back yard from the great room, a wall will be partially knocked out to make room for two French doors, which will open out onto an expansive deck to accommodate 50 people. The deck, like the great room, will also serve as a meeting place, only it will allow students to conduct activities outside on comfortable Hamilton days. Jillings also enthusiastically expressed interest in holding classes out on the deck, which will include steps down to the large lawn in the Center's backyard, where Jillings hopes more outdoor activities and games will take place.

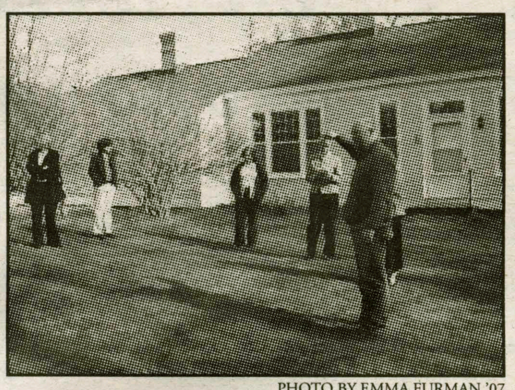


PHOTO BY EMMA FURMAN '07

Jillings demonstrates where the Center's backyard porch, to accomodate 50, will be located.

The outdoor deck will also be constructed so that it is partially covered on one side. Jillings discussed plans for "hanging hammocks" underneath the covering, and made it clear that he hoped for student input and creativity to make the Hamilton Outdoor Leadership Center a relaxing and welcoming place, saying "I'm sure students will come up with stuff."

PHOTO BY EMMA FURMAN '07

Indie, Jillings's border collie, is right at home in the Center's great room.

The Center will also include new office space for Jillings as well as a new assistant director for the adventure program and its regular yearly interns. Two old bedrooms of the house will be converted into these offices. The new assistant director position has already attracted much attention. Jillings excitedly announced that four people have already expressed interest in the job, including alumni.

The Center would not be complete without expansive storage space for the outdoor equipment many groups on campus have. Jillings stated that on the side of the building containing the garage, nearly every wall will be knocked down, from the great room to the garage, to make room for Outing Club storage. One room will be designed to loan out equipment such as snow shoes and skis to students, and contain a counter and barcode checkout machine to ensure that equipment is accounted for. "A 100 percent return rate would be nice," commented Jillings. The design for the room will be similar to comparable facilities for the loaning out of equipment in the athletic department.

The house's attic will also function as storage, as will the garage. According to Jillings, the Program's canoes and kayaks will be stored in the garage, which will be expanded about 15 feet to incorporate storage for the Bike Co-op.

The house was originally constructed as an art studio for Elihu Root's son, who painted with oils. At the time of original construction, only the center of the house stood, designed to be the perfect artist's haven: south facing with large windows looking out onto the glen. After his death, his wife moved into the house with friends, and the house was expanded on either side to include two apartments. The friends shared the great room in the middle as a common space. More recently, the house was home to Associate Dean of the Faculty Kirk Pillow, as well as Media Relations-Web Specialist Esena Jackson.

With the support of Jillings, as well as the students who lead AA and other groups here on campus, the Outdoor Leadership Center will continue serving as a comfortable shared space for generations of students to come, just as it did for its previous residents.

Moses leads audience in discussion on value of constitutional amendment for education

from Moses, page 1

later went on to teach math in Tanzania and to attain a doctorate degree in philosophy from Harvard University.

Moses founded The Algebra Project in 1982, which, according to their website, "seeks to impact the struggle for citizenship and equality by assisting students in inner city and rural areas to achieve mathematics literacy." The same year he received a MacArthur Fellowship. In 2001 he published a book entitled "Radical Equations: Civil Rights from Mississippi to the Algebra Project."

When asked why the DSJP chose to bring Moses as the speaker for their grand opening, Garret responded, "Could you think of a better speaker? An alumnus, who has spent his life working for civil rights through nonviolent civil protest and through the improvement of basic education for urban and rural black and Latino children. A brilliant and gifted African-American, who was willing to come and share the occasion with us and even refused an honorarium but rather requested we make a donation to the Algebra Project."

Moses began his talk by stating that he wasn't going to be giving a speech. Instead, he said to the audience, "I'm going to ask you to work…around a major issue that faces the country." The resulting discussion centered around inequalities in education in the United States and possible solutions for this long-standing problem, including debate surrounding a new constitutional amendment to guarantee a quality education to all children in the U.S.

He began by leading the audience in a call and response to the preamble of the Constitution, and proceeded to open the discussion by stating the importance of the word usage of "We the people" in the preamble.

"It does not say 'We the president,' 'We the congress,' or even 'We the supreme court,'" said Moses, "Nor does it say, surprisingly and interestingly, 'We the citizens.' It just says 'We the people.'"

He then went on to briefly discuss the history of inequality in American education, citing recent developments in the New York State government. Moses then asked the audience to act as "We the people" as they responded to the proposition of a constitutional amendment stating that "every child in the United States has a right to a quality public school education."

Once the floor was opened for discussion the responses were many and varied. Moses structured the discussion as a conversation, and asked that people talk to each other as opposed to directing their comments at him. Professors and students alike, as well as community members, then contributed to the discussion, talking about their various opinions and points of view on the issue.

Professor of History Esther Kanipe was the first to speak, asking who would get to define quality education.

Professor of Classics and Africana Studies Shelley Haley spoke as well, stating her concerns regarding a constitutional amendment. She felt that it is "more important to keep control at the local level."

Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature Melek Ortabasi commented that it would be a noteworthy idea to consult "school systems in other countries" on the issue. She spoke of the lack of respect that she feels many Americans have for education, stating that "one of the most underpaid professions in this country are teachers."

"If athletes are what teenagers want to be" in the U.S., she continued, then we have a "major problem" on our hands. She felt that it would be beneficial to have such an amendment "enshrined in the Constitution" in order to "bring better people into the classroom."

Others suggested that the federal government's role should be only to set the basic standard for a quality education and provide the resources necessary to have such an education, but leave much of the power to individual states.

Jon Kuhl '06 suggested a "standard for drawing up school districts" based on property taxes so that all districts receive equal funding.

Haley spoke again later as well, asking why we would not also promote an amendment for universal health care, and saying that other steps, such as an amendment for universal health care, need to be put in place before an amendment for quality education for all.

The conversation varied in subject matter and opinion, touching on many different facets of social justice as well as racial and ethnic equality.

Moses concluded the discussion by voicing his concern that the U.S. government is simply "running failing schools" and "rescuing those we can" in the form of many different programs such as Upward Bound and vouchers. Instead, Moses said, "We should fix [our public education system]."

He went on to suggest that "for the first time in our history we have a national discussion, and we should begin it at Hamilton."

The Moses lecture, in a nearly full KJ Auditorium, was well attended. Following the lecture, those present were invited to attend a reception in the DSJP's new office space, near McEwen Dining Hall and Opus 1.

Of the discussion, Garret said, "I was very pleased with the whole event. The turnout, participation and energy level at the discussion were excellent. Bob Moses enabled members of the campus community to engage in a conversation of mechanisms to attain, and obstacles to, equity in public education, which brought out difficult issues in a constructive way. He also challenged us to continue this discussion; a challenge the Diversity and Justice Project will take seriously in subsequent years."

Da Chen lectures on his inspirations as a writer

by Pat Hodgens '09
News Writer

Da Chen isn't a world famous, critically acclaimed memoirist; he's a skinny country boy with a flair for storytelling. Hamilton's Chinese language department sponsored a lecture by Chinese-born author Chen on Wednesday night in the Science Center. His talk, "From Village China to Wall Street to Random House," featured stories from his youth in poverty-stricken rural China and his experiences writing and publishing in affluent downstate New York.

Chen began with his perspective on his identity. As he stood before the crowd in an expensive suit purchased on 5th Avenue, he told everyone it was a disguise. "This is not who I really am. To me, I'm still that skinny country boy."

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Da Chen lectures on his experiences growing up in rural China.

He then introduced the crowd to that skinny country boy, rolling out stories from Cultural Revolution-era China.

Professor Silber, who introduced Chen, related that he suffered through "the swollen-belly, countable ribs kind of hunger" before coming to America. But that wasn't the focus of his lecture. Extreme poverty was just a backdrop for revealing Chen's almost spiritual relationship to stories, in cinematic, oral and literary form.

"We would walk 45 minutes...to be part of the wonderful magic that leapt onto the screen," he said as he discussed his youthful yearly treat: a trip to the movies. That magic came at young Chen from a strange perspective though. He sat in the smoke-filled theaters cheapest seats, those on the floor behind the screen. Though "everyone was left-handed," he cherished the opportunity to see the "beautiful people and pictures."

The movies were a once a year event, but the rest of his nights weren't without entertainment. Every evening, sitting under the stars and a large pine tree, Chen listened to his favorite old storyteller. This man, by day a drunken semi-beggar, "occupied a throne of authority... [and held] a scepter of words," in young Chen's mind. He made the audience "forget how tired they were; forget how dark the night was."

Chen wasn't merely entertained by this man, he was inspired. "I became the storyteller of my generation," he said. Everyday he would take the old man's story from the night before and share it with his friends. The setting was a lychee tree, not a pine, and the pre-story ritual was a day at school, not a beer, but Chen held his audience under the same spell. He took the old man's stories and made them his own, sharing them with his schoolmates as a younger boy "paid" for the story with a back rub or foot massage.

Although Chen's poverty wasn't the central theme of the lecture, it was a striking subtext. Chen didn't own a pair of shoes until he was eight or nine, and during the winter his feet could barely survive the long, cold walk to school. Some days brought relief though. "If you happened to encounter freshly released cow manure, then that was your lucky day."

After his short aside into the finer points of winter comfort, he returned to the stories about stories that dominated the talk, going into his sacred relationship with books: "I had a burning desire to read." It was tough to quench that desire in his village though. The few books that made it there were quickly broken apart to be copied. It was difficult to get them back together though. "Everyone would get a different piece. The guy who got the end would have to ask, what happened at the beginning?"

Chen wasn't doomed to a life of disjointed introductions, epilogues and climaxes though. He and his friends rejoiced when a new method of getting books sprung up on the outskirts of town: not a bookstore, not a library, but a book renting store. For one penny, you could sit and read one book all afternoon. After creatively struggling to get the book, Chen shared his passionate experience with the book. "I felt I had wings," he said after reading what he later found out was "The Count of Monte Cristo."

Chen glazed over the difficult journey from world of lychee trees and penny-an-afternoon reading sessions to the world of editors and Barnes and Noble, briefly mentioning his stops learning English in Beijing and studying law at Columbia.

Reflecting on his youth, Chen said, "There are good things and bad things, but as I look back, it was mostly good things...By knowing my story, I hope you will be able to appreciate your own life a little bit more."

Visiting Instructor of East Asian Languages and Literature and a Chinese native, Yen-Ching Lu said he was invited because he was an "excellent story teller." Da Chen's new stories are available in his forthcoming work, fiction this time, called "Brothers: A Novel."

Tom Brokaw Seating Procedures

Former NBC Nightly News anchor Tom Brokaw will be on campus Thursday, April 27, 2006 as our next guest for The Sacerdote Great Names Series at Hamilton. For biographical notes and details, please visit the Great Names Web site at http://www.hamilton.edu/greatnames.

Please note that the entrance and parking procedures for Hamilton students and employees are different than those for the general public. We are expecting a capacity crowd and appreciate your cooperation.

Seating:

A section of the Field House will be reserved for Hamilton students and employees. In order to access the Hamilton section, students and employees will be asked to show a current Hamilton ID, and will be admitted to the Field House through the EMERSON LOBBY. (The Emerson Lobby is the entrance closest to the Athletic Offices and the Bristol Pool.) Your Hamilton ID card will admit you and one guest. This policy will be strictly enforced. You will be ushered from the Emerson Lobby, through the Sage Rink and into the Field House. You will not be permitted to "save seats" once you're inside the Field House.

By following this protocol, Hamilton students and employees will bypass the general public line. Please keep in mind that this will be your only access to the Hamilton section. If you arrive through the general public doors (the main doors to the Field House) you will be seated with the general public. You are welcome to attend with more than one guest, but if you do you will enter with the general public and be seated in that section.

We will have staff on hand to begin forming a line in front of the lobby at 4:00 p.m., and the doors will open at 5:00 p.m. Hamilton students and employees MUST enter by 6:30 p.m. At that time, if there are any seats remaining in the Hamilton section, they will be released. The Emerson Lobby doors will "close" at 6:30, and you will be directed to the general public entrance.

Parking:

The Field House parking lot will be closed beginning at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26. Employees who generally park in this lot will be asked to park in North Lot (Lot A on Campus Road) or the Root Lot (behind Root residence hall) on Thursday, April 27. Jitney service will be provided Thursday morning from those lots to bring you to your offices. I appreciate your cooperation with this particular issue.

For the lecture, employees and their guests will be asked to park in the Root Lot. Again, this will help you avoid the traffic and congestion of the general public lots. Shuttles/vans will be provided from Root Lot to bring Hamilton employees to Dunham, close to the Emerson Lobby. DO NOT TAKE THE SHUTTLE BUSES FROM THE VILLAGE OF CLINTON. If you arrive with the general public, you will be seated with the general public.

I encourage you, if possible, to remain on campus from the end of your work day through to the lecture. Avoid the traffic and parking hassles by having your guest meet you on campus, and enjoy dinner in Commons or McEwen. The shuttle buses from Root lot will begin at 4:15 p.m.

Security, Overflow Venues, and Handicapped Seating:

For security reasons no backpacks, book bags or large items will be allowed into the field house. In addition, no photography or recording devices of any kind will be permitted.

Guests who arrive after the Field House has reached maximum capacity will be directed to the Science Center to watch the lecture through a remote broadcast.

If you or someone you know needs to make arrangements for a guest with a physical disability, please call 859-4529 for assistance.

Class of 2007 Officer Platforms

Appeals Board

Casey Deak

The Appeals Board is particularly important in ensuring fairness in the on-campus judicial system. I have a particular interest in law and its application and would be honored to serve as a student representative on the Appeals Board. I have great respect for the on-campus justice system and the Hamilton community as a whole, and I would use this opportunity to the best of my ability to make sure every student is appropriately represented. I know that I would make a positive contribution to the Board of Appeals and I ask for your support.

Deanne Katz

My name is Deanne Katz and I am running for a position on the Appeals Board. I am currently a member of the Honor Court and have much experience with the judicial processes at Hamilton. Everyone makes mistakes and sometimes decisions are made based on incomplete information. Students in this position deserve a second chance if they were not treated fairly and as a member of the Appeals Board I would try to ensure that students get the chance they deserve to defend themselves. Please support me in giving every student the chance they deserve.

Class Treasurer

Mark Meigher

I have served as Secretary/Treasurer for the class of 2007 this semester, as well as the Chairman of the famed Food Committee, and if there is one thing I have done right so far this semester, listening and voicing my fellow classmates' opinions would be it. Throughout my experience this semester I have learned that listening to even the most miniscule details makes all of the difference. I intend to use that principle in every action as Secretary/ Treasurer of the class of 2007. I promise to work hard for my class and for the rest of the Hamilton community.

Quang Nguyen

My name is Quang Nguyen. I am running the re-election campaign for the Secretary/Treasurer position of class 07. I have been doing this job for the past two years with great success and become a veteran in managing and allocating funds among clubs and organizations. Self-motivating, dedication, and commitment are my qualifications. It is my pledge that if given your vote, I will persist my full dedication to our class in particular and to the college in general.

Class Representative

Sara Carhart

A class representative needs to be the link between the student body, and the student government and administration. As your representative, I will listen to your concerns and suggestions and will voice them to the Student Assembly. More importantly though, I will ensure that your Student Representatives accomplish your expectations. As an active member of the Hamilton Community, I have met many members of the Class of 2007 and I realize how special our class is. As your student representative, I will give our class what it deserves: a fun and unforgettable final year at Hamilton.

Melissa Coffey

Hi! I would love to be your class representative again for our senior year! I would like to continue to focus on issues such as food in commons, freshman forum, and funding for clubs. Our voice is extremely important this coming year. I would be an organized and thoughtful representative for our senior class's needs in the planning of senior week, which is an extremely important event. I would also like to plan a few more class dinners and continue the tradition of 'bring our teacher to the pub' night. Please elect me as your class representative for next year.

Neal Frei

In my experience making decisions for a campus organization, any committee, or as a class representative, it is important to include the ideas, perspectives and goals of all people in the entire group you are representing. I think that I have a good grasp of the different types of students that make up our class. As a class representative, I promise to do my best to make decisions, keeping in mind the different types of views supported in our class. I know this will be a tough job, but I am dedicated and up to the challenge. Thank you.

Tucker Hutchinson

Fellow classmates, I've spent the last year representing our class on Student Assembly. I would love to continue my position going into our senior year. There will be lots of senior pub nights to plan and eventually senior week. I know I can do a great job planning both, and representing our class at the weekly Student Assembly meetings. I am an approachable and dedicated member of our class and would appreciate your vote. Thanks, Tucker.

Jae Lee

I am writing this to express my dedication and commitment to the class of 2007. In my experiences with different organizations on campus, I have come to realize how difficult it is to reflect various viewpoints of the whole community. I desire to be a class representative to show initiative, and to make effective decisions that represent the best interest of our class. One can make a positive difference if only given the chance. Thank you.

Judicial Board

Michael Blasie

As a member of the J-Board for the past two years, I have gained experience through training and trials. Few people intend to commit violations, but it happens. Students work hard and deserve to have fun too. There is also a degree of responsibility that must be respected; when others get hurt or are negatively affected by one's actions, then a punishment should be implemented. I will consider intent and responsibility. Both sides deserve to be heard and as a member of the Mock Trial Team, I can understand and analyze both sides in a fair and just manner.

Neal Frei

It is clear that rules and guidelines are needed to help govern and support the integrity of any community, including Hamilton College. In my past three years here, I have done my best to follow and support our rules, but like all of us, I am not perfect. I understand that things happen and bad decisions are made. We all make mistakes. This is why, under the right circumstances, I am a strong supporter of second chances. If elected to the Judicial Board, I promise to hold the rules firm, while still being reasonable, fair and honest. Thank you.

Yubo Lu

Vote Yubo Lu for Judicial Board Representative! Served as resident advisor for the past two years in Dunham and North, I have gained plentiful experience in dealing with violations against school policies in various situations. I am also very familiar with the college regulations and procedures, such as the new Point System established this year. As a pre-law student, I find myself a very good fit for this position. Moreover, as an international student from an ethnical minority group, I am able to contribute to the diversity of the Judicial Board to better represent the student body as a whole.

Honor Court

Maggie Chan

The Honor Code establishes a relationship of trust amongst students and faculty. It is the duty of an Honor Court Representative to uphold the Honor Code and, equally as important, protect students' rights in that regard. I firmly believe in the purpose of the Honor Code and the Honor Court and I will be committed to upholding the regulations in a fair and just manner. I would also value the opportunity to serve and represent the Class of 2007 so please vote for me. Thank you.

Kara Feigeles

It would be a privilege to represent the senior class on Honor Court. As an athlete as well as an ISC member, I have a unique perspective of the student body and have come to understand the importance of our student rights. As president of my sorority, I am fair and devoted when dealing with important issues; qualities, I believe would serve the Honor Court well. I have your best interests at heart and while upholding academic honesty I want to help ensure that the student's rights, *your* rights, are protected.

Brian Monterroso

Rising seniors of the Class of 2007- I am grateful that I had the opportunity to represent you on honor court spring semester of 2006. I want to be re-elected to Honor Court because I want to continue believing that individuals are capable of phenomenal work. I believe that it is always important to understand the entire situation before making a final decision. I will always listen to you and respect your opinion on the matter in question. I would greatly appreciate your vote to continue representing the Class of 2007 on Honor Court. Thank you.

Class of 2008 Officer Platforms

Class Treasurer

Greg Ray

Fellow sophomores, I would like to serve as your secretary/treasurer for the coming year. A vote for me is a safe vote because I have the experience to serve you. I am currently a class rep on student assembly and have been involved in planning class events including the band that will be coming this month. As secretary/treasurer I intend to get as much money as possible for the activities popular with our class. I also plan on having more and improved class functions. Please vote wisely and please vote for me. Thanks, Greg Ray

Katie Childs

After spending a semester in DC, I am looking forward to returning to the Hill and hopefully serving as secretary-treasurer. I have represented our class as secretary-treasurer for two years, and the leadership experiences that I have gained from numerous campus activities has prepared me to take on these responsibilities again next year. Nearly 40% of our class will study abroad next year, so maintaining class unity will be more important than ever. I would like to hold class dinners in the Little Pub, start a class volunteer day, and organize activities such as a class basketball tournament.

Class Representatives

Mikhail Bell

In two years at Hamilton, I have been served in several capacities. As a freshman, I was a host for prospective students, member of the Men's Soccer Team and Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. This year, I became a Residential Advisor. My continued involvement in campus activities has allowed me to pursue my passion of helping people, especially my peers. If elected, I will do my best to serve the interest of Hamilton's incredible sophomore class. With your vote, I can become a voice for our class. A vote for me is a vote in the right direction!

Allie Berkley

After participating in the D.C. program this semester I am looking forward to returning to Hamilton in the fall, and I would be honored to serve as one of your class representatives. I have valuable previous experience with student government and am confident that I will make a effective representative. Hamilton is already a great place, but there are many student concerns that need to be addressed, and both big and little ways in which your student government can help make your experience at Hamilton as positive as possible. Class of 2008, we have two great years left, lets make

Katie Goodwin

To the Class of 2008: I would love the privilege of representing our class in the Student Assembly. My strengths lie in my down-to-earth personality, my talent in debate, and my creativity in solving issues such that all parties are benefited. Not only am I capable of working with people from all different backgrounds, I am actually excited to get to know more of our student body. It would do me a great honor to represent the class of 2008 and I am grateful for your support. Sincerely, Katie Goodwin

Sarah Patterson

Representation requires time, compassion, and dedication. To represent someone is not to express one's own ideas or rely on one's own involvements. Representation is the practice of listening to the ideas and concerns of all others and delivering those thoughts to the governing body. Representation is voicing the opinions of those not present to speak. Representation is serving the needs of others, regardless of opinion and persuasion. I, Sarah Patterson, am running for Class of 2008 representative, and look forward to discovering your needs and serving them to the best of my ability.

Adam Polonski

Greetings! I'm Adam Polonski, and I am eager to serve my class as a representative. I have represented you for two years, and have planned and run many events – dinners, skate parties, FallFest, you name it. I have also served as a committee chair. When much of our class is going abroad, we need someone with knowledge, passion, and experience as a guide in our second to last year. As a representative, I will maintain the same high standards for Assembly and Class that I have in the past. I would be proud to serve you for another term.

Will Reid

My name is Will Reid and I feel that I should be one of our class's representatives. I feel that I can work well with the other representatives and officers to make our junior year our best year yet. I love fun. So if you also love fun then you should vote for me. I promise that I will do the best that I can for our class.

Judicial Board

Alex Chaconnas

I am qualified for this position because I am an adept listener and I believe that each incident is different because of its circumstances and should be treated as such. My goal will be to understand the circumstances behind every case and to uphold the values of the student body. I have gained experience as a Jboard rep last year and I will continue to be just, be fair, and above all, represent the Hamilton community.

Melissa Kong

Serving as Judicial Board Representative for our class this past year, I realized that this is one of the hardest jobs to have. There is a constant struggle between wanting to look as favorably as possible on fellow peers who are sent to J-Board, while trying to maintain a safe atmosphere at our college. We all make mistakes, and I believe that people usually deserve a second chance. Please allow me to serve as your Judicial Board Representative to ensure that peeople get that chance.

Caitlin McGilley

Recent changes in the disciplinary system at Hamilton have made it difficult for some students to be properly informed of their sanctions. As a J-Board Representative, I'd like to help all who must unfortunately face the J-Board feel comfortable knowing that they will receive a fair trial. I promise to be unbiased in all decisions and to make sure all representatives fully understand each individual case. Mistakes happen, but it's at our lowest when we need compassion. I'm well versed in the discipline system at Hamilton and I vow to work for fair and balanced decisions for all.

Katie Painter

Hi. My name is Katie Painter. I am running for reelection to the Judicial Board as your class of 2008 representative. I have the experience, leadership, and dedication needed to continue serving your interests. I urge you to vote for a candidate who is committed to protecting students' rights and maintaining the integrity of the College. Please come out to vote on Wednesday, April 26th. Thank you and vote Katie!

Honor Court

Deanne Katz

My name is Deanne Katz and I am running for the position of Honor Court Representative for the Class of 2008. I served last year as a representative on the Honor Court and I would like the opportunity to do it again. Hamilton gives us much freedom in both respecting our academic integrity and involving us in the system. If re-elected, I will take care to uphold these freedoms so that students can continue to have the respect they deserve in their academic endeavors. Please support me in continuing this tradition of academic freedom.

Sarah Levitan

Having served on the Honor Court for the past year, I understand what an important institution the honor code is to our school. The code ensures that a Hamilton degree represents hard work and independent thought. Regrettably, for the code to have any meaning, violators must be reported and given the appropriate penalty. Those on the Honor Court are given the difficult task of ensuring that the trust granted to us by the faculty and administration is upheld, as well as the integrity of our school. I would be honored to continue to have this responsibility.

Chip Smith

The maintenance of the Hamilton's high academic standards and ideals requires a community in which individuals abide by the Honor Code and where those accused of a violation are subjected to thorough investigations and just proceedings. If elected as an Honor Court Representative for the Class of 2008, I will approach my duties with the same commitment that I have for my classes, while implementing and showing others the exact level of justice and fairness that I would wish to be shown.

Class of 2009 Officer Platforms

Class Treasurer

Hillary Fixelle

My name is Hillary Fixelle and I am running for re-election as the secretary/treasurer position for the Class of 2009's Student Assembly. I am highly qualified for this position because I possess the skills needed to serve as an active participant in the Assembly. In addition to keeping your best interests in mind at all times, I keep all the notes/minutes from meetings highly organized and easily accessible. If re-elected, my excellent note-taking and organizational skills, proactive approach to conflicts, monetary management skills, approachability, and ability to work well with others will allow me to succeed as your secretary/treasurer.

Class Representative

Amelia Barry

For the past year, I have represented you as a Class Representative. Among many things, I worked hard to plan fun events to promote class unity, to help resolve the problems my classmates brought to my attention, and organize the selling of class clothing. If you vote for me again, I will make our second year here even better. My goals for next year are to get McEwen open on weekends, eliminate first year forum, and make it so we can use swipe cards for laundry. I will ensure that the Class of 2009 stays the coolest class on campus!

Grant Blosser

Over the past few months my fellow Student Assembly members and I have served the class of 2009 well. If reelected, I will continue to work hard in order to ensure that, as a class, we may have the optimal experience at Hamilton. Also, I will firmly oppose the recent administrative attempts to impede upon our social and academic liberties. To borrow a quote from William Wallace: the Administration may take our lives, but they will never take our freedom.

Alex Caruso

Hello Classmates, some of you know me as Moose, my name is Alex Caruso and I am running for Class Representative. As many of you know, I am charismatic, responsible, driven, easy going, and fun. More importantly, I want to put my award winning leadership abilities to work for the benefit of our class and for Hamilton. To those who I've not yet had the opportunity to meet, I am confident that you will vote for the right man if you vote for me. I look forward to working for us all as Class Representative, and ask for your vote.

Marty Connor

As many of you may know I ran for Class President at the start of last semester. Unfortunately I did not win, however I have remained well versed in the major issues on our campus and would like greatly to serve as one of our Class Representatives for the coming year. I have a lot of great ideas, and feel strongly that some fresh perspective and input (most of the other candidates are incumbents) would contribute greatly next year. -Marty Connor

Jessie Dietz

To the wonderful class of 2009: I am a very approachable, responsible person who would be sure to accomplish any task that was handed to me. I am very accessible and am eager to listen to any suggestions or problems that my classmates would like me to bring to the student assembly. I will do my best to make sure any concerns or needs of our class are met as efficiently and quickly as possible. I would be honored to be able to say that I represent the Class of 2009.

Allison Gaston-Enholm

Working with other officers this year has been an incredible and fun experience. We've accomplished a lot for our class, including hosting numerous events and putting many of your suggestions into action, and we have exciting things in the process for the upcoming year. It would be an honor to serve you all again as your representative. Though I am involved with many groups on campus, being a Class Representative is my favorite job. I am still enthusiastic about our class and our potential. Let me continue to help this class come together and ensure an awesome time next year.

Xiaobo Ma

I am always seeking to do more for the class. The wonderful people at Hamilton made my first year the greatest time, and I am eager to pay back. As a future RA and active member in many organizations, I will understand better what most people need. I will work democratically to represent the student body in school decision-making. Also, as a creative and devoted student, I will come up with interesting ideas to make the school life more exciting. Most importantly, my enthusiasm and energy will lead me to try whatever I can and represent your interests best.

Emily Smith

My name is Emily Smith and I running for reelection to the position of class representative. Over the past year I have enjoyed working on the assembly and loved getting to know the members of our class. With the knowledge and the passion for the job I have gained I would love the opportunity to continue to serve you. I have served on the food committee and worked to bring many social functions to campus. I will continue to work on these projects in the future. We are an amazing class, lets make our Hamilton experience just as amazing.

Judicial Board

Alexandra Hutchison

As a member of the judicial board, my primary goals would be to advocate for the best interests of each student, as well as for the process of evolving thoughtful uniform standards as a whole. In reaching these goals, I believe I can be an effective communicator with the faculty, representing student concerns and interests in general, and presenting unique matters and contexts as required. I am interested in distinguishing small infractions from serious ones; recognizing the implications of repeated infractions; identifying the unique circumstances in each case; and using all available resources to best assist the students.

Abby Jones

Hi, my name is Abby Jones and I am interested in representing the Class of 2009 on the Judicial Board here at Hamilton. My main goal is to make sure that points are given where they are due, but not where they're not. Too many people have been awarded unnecessary points and I want to ensure that no longer happens. By being a representative I guarantee that my opinion will be heard and acknowledged on cases. I hope that my insight and suggestions will also help to promote a fair judicial process at Hamilton College.

Ashlyn Lovejoy

As a member of the Hamilton College community, I feel it is important to uphold the disciplinary stances of the school. The judicial board is one of the important factors in the disciplinary system of the school and I believe that I can add an unbiased attitude toward my fellow students and a driven search for the truth in every situation. I feel that this aspect of the Hamilton College community is so important to school and to life after school and to continue to uphold a high standard of moral values.

David Schlifka

I am running for Judicial Board representative because I love Hamilton, and feel a duty to uphold its social integrity. My belief is that a Judicial Board officer must exemplify the honesty and honor among mankind that he or she promotes. To that end, I promise to withhold any favorable or negative prejudice against a particular party when making decisions. I always select a new friend solely based on excellence in character. I would not consider someone who commits an act that degrades the image of a respectful Hamilton community a comrade who I would want to protect from penalty.

Honor Court

Kasey Miller

Here at Hamilton College, the Honor Code is something that is taken very seriously and all students respect the guidelines given by the Honor Code. When a student fails to follow the rules of the Honor Code, this is when my potential position comes into play. As an Honor Court Representative, I will ensure that I will look at all honor code violations with an open mind and treat both sides of the case equally. In listening to the cases, I will consider all points and come to a fair verdict. I will not take advantage of my power if

Allie Shpall

I feel that it is necessary to uphold the honor code because it creates trust within our community while protecting our integrity. The honor code is essential to protect our own academic work. Academic dishonesty should not be taken lightly, for it is a serious issue. I support the Honor Court's goal to punish those who violate the honor code. I would love to represent our class because I feel that the honor code is not only important to me, but also to our class and the rest of the Hamilton community.

Insights & Ideas

Senior reflects on how to better Hamilton

by Jesse Gaylord '06
Insights & Ideas Writer

As the weather warms up and classes wind down, we seniors cannot help but notice that graduation is just around the corner. For us, it means that the days of waking up at noon, playing golf and IM softball then going to an all you can eat dining hall are over and the daily grind of the "real world" is about to begin.

For many, Senior Spring is a time of reflection upon one's tenure at Hamilton. What got me thinking about my tenure was the Senior survey our class had to fill out, specifically the question "what you would change if you had to do your four years over?"

As I pondered whether or not my time at Hamilton had been positive, whether there was anything I would change and whether I would choose Hamilton again, I experienced a whirlwind of emotions.

These emotions spanned dark Bundy parties, 9 a.m. classes and days on the track. I eventually came up with many things that I think Hamilton could improve upon to make its experience more enjoyable to its students. And while I was hard pressed to convey an experience to encompass every facet of the current Hamilton community, these thoughts try to cater to a majority.

A caveat: I would like to point out that I feel it has become "the in thing" to complain about one's Hamilton experience. It seems like every week there is another article on how we don't get enough for our money and how the administration is turning a time of self discovery into an experience that mirrors our high school days. I do not intend to criticize every aspect of Hamilton, but rather to offer suggestions and guidance to the community on improving Hamilton's quality of life.

Yale University's slogan is, "For God, For Country, For Yale." At Hamilton, however, I feel there is an acute lack of community. In my opinion, a Hamilton student would not name the Hamilton community as her main source of identity. In my four years, I have witnessed students constantly fighting the administration, student cliques bashing each other, or worse, students excluding and ignoring other members of the Hamilton campus. We are no longer a group of Hamilton students; rather we are many groups under one, very shaky, Hamilton banner.

As a son of an alumnus, I cannot help but compare my experiences to the stories my father told about his experiences. He recounts weekly campus meetings where the entire student body was present; students would snap and hiss depending on whether they liked what the speaker was saying.

Yet throughout my four years, attendance at town hall meetings had hovered around one hundred students (give or take). Campus-wide indifference and apathy has led to a deterioration of of the community which once existed at Hamilton. No longer are we Hamilton students; we are merely students who happen to attend Hamilton.

I feel that the lack of traditions and permanent institutions contributes to the lack of collective community at Hamilton. One only has to look at former librarian Walter Pilkington's history of Hamilton to see that our school used to be steeped in tradition. Regardless of when one graduated from Hamilton, he could come back and recognize specific traditions and events on the Hamilton campus.

Student body diversity did not contribute a lack of traditions; rather everyone experienced similar events and therefore felt a common bond. As anyone who has taken a Dan Chambliss class knows, this phenomenon is called "Ritual Solidarity."

I yearn for the days where there were fraternity houses, an Orange Bowl where you could throw Oranges, a Bundy party without some huge bouncer ripping a beer from my hand. These, among others, were Hamilton institutions; institutions that defined all Hamilton students' experiences. Yet as the years pass, these institutions are slowly being replaced with events that have little footing in our school's history. No one will come back as an alumnus saying how much they missed going to "Late Night" events in the barn.

Finally, many of my fellow seniors agree with me when we say that Hamilton is in the middle of an identity crisis. While we have been here we have seen two presidents, the loss of a Dean of Students who was practically a Hamilton institution himself, the destruction of campus social life... the list goes on. We all can agree that we came to Hamilton because it was unique.

It was not Williams, it was not Amherst, it was not Middlebury. We came to Hamilton, a place for independent thinkers, a place where the student body was extremely smart, but at the end of the day still liked to have a beer. Where has that Hamilton gone? I feel as though the administration is pushing Hamilton up the rankings at the expense of a Hamilton identity.

Unfortunately, it is the nature of the beast, but we did not go to Williams because we liked Hamilton better. Why should we tailor the Hamilton experience to be more like the "better" schools (according to *US News*) when we had an awesome model already?

Williams kids are dorks. This school preaches to their students to think independently yet all they can do is cite what our peer institutions are doing as justification for changes. Why don't we blaze our own trail using our almost 200 year old history rather than seeing what those who are "better" than us are doing?

Finally, I do not think anyone can contest that Hamilton seniors have received an exemplary education. Regardless of the increasing pressure for professors to be publishers first and teachers second, I did not talk to one classmate who was unhappy with their scholarly achievements. We have had professors that reach out to us, make us think in ways that we never thought we could and even write a paper or two. While some of those all-nighters were certainly unpleasant, we are all smarter people for having come to Hamilton.

While this might come off as a rant, I do think that many of my classmates will agree that outside of our excellent academic experience, Hamilton needs to find itself again. It not only needs to incorporate tradition back into its identity, but to think for itself and not merely be a cookie cutter institution run like a business.

Hamilton is a small institution; our administration has the privileged opportunity to get to know students personally. Do not "analyze" students through committees and coalitions. Talk to them. Listen to them.

We all deserve open communication between students and administrators. Come and sit down at dinner. Come to the pub to engage the entire community. With everyone's help, we can make Hamilton unique and special place it used to be: the place all of the seniors envisioned when we arrived four years ago.

Thumbs up

-Saturday's Tree Hugger party: Carhart, hemp and hairy legs haven't been this fashionable since Kirkland College opened.

-The Buffers praising our column in song.

-Christian Fellowship's laundry day. Sorry, I only get my laundry done by the flying spaghetti monster. He is our real savior. (vengaza.org).

-Sex Jeopardy. Potpourri for 500: This object in my pants got very excited this morning when I woke up.

-Senior Gift Non-Donors being publicly humiliated via email. Guess you shouldn't have spent that $20 on anal beads.

-Wednesday night parties: At least we know that there are still some alcoholics here.

Thumbs down

-Hazing your "wonderful" pledges.

-Martin's Way trash dump: If I wanted to be around that much garbage, I'd join Facebook's "The Bomb Squad."

-David Horowitz on WHCL: If I wanted to listen to a fear-mongering, fascist, idiot I'd go to a Hamilton GOP meeting.

-Gin and Juice postponed: How does the mechanical bull feel about that?

-The jackass who slashed every bike tire in Babbitt. Your mother should have aborted you.

by Jesse Gaylord '06, Daniel Horowitz '06, and Ruth Duggan '08

Who cares

-Swimming Clinics for Hamtrek. If you need a swimming clinic, Hamtrek probably isn't for you.

-Leadership Workshop cancelled: What will I do now for a pointless resume booster? Guess I'll run for Student Assembly President.

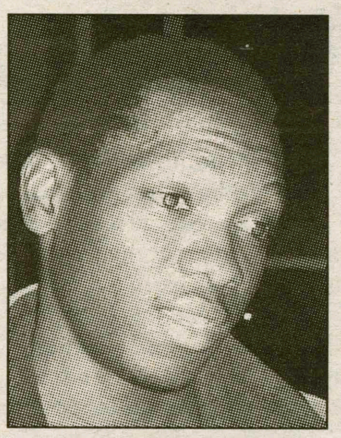
-Katie Childs returns to campus: If she makes babies with Eric Kuhn there will be so much campus involvement, the campus will spontaneously combust.

-Dems/Repubs Debate: I haven't heard this many people talk out of their ass since Philosophy 101.

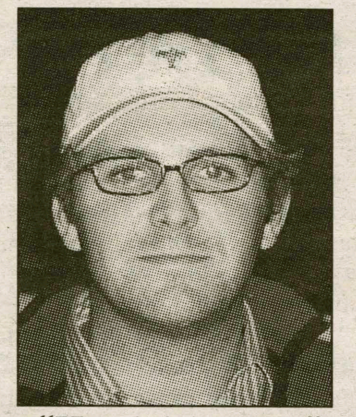
-Yoga cancelled this week: Crap! How am I gonna perfect downward facing dog before this weekend's hook-up?

-Student Involvement Recognition Banquet: Recognizing the same 3 students who serve on the Alcohol Coalition, Pentagon, J-Board, and the Heat Executive Board.

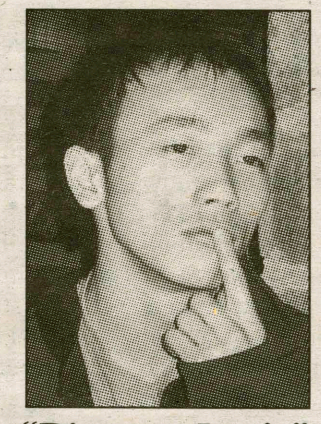
DISCLAIMER: The views and comments made by the authors of this column do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Spectator* or its staff.



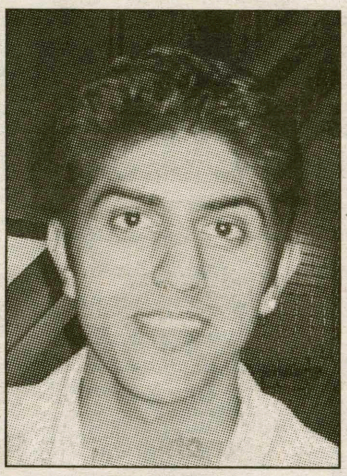
"Make him spend a whole hour in Erol Balkan's econ class."
~Hidza Masuka '09



"Hot Asian teens."
~Andrew O'Laughlin '06



"Dinner at Joan's."
~Michael Fung '06



"Have them chill with my friends."
~Jai Moorjani '09

Hamilton Unscripted

This week's question:
How would you entertain a prospective student?

by Michelle Butler '06 & Eric Kuhn '09

"Make them be a nerd and study acorns with me in the science center."
~Liz Roberts '06

"Bring them to a Buffers concert."
~Kaitlin Brit '09

"They would never give me a prospective."
~Barrett Wadsworth '06

"Definitely not bring them to the library nor to a Bundy party."
~Jess Gorman '06

by Tom Booth '06

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Features

New registration system simplifies procedure

Yet many students are concerned about the fairness of this method

by Kaitlin Krumeich '09
FEATURES WRITER

Course selection is a stressful time, but this semester a new registration process caused even more anxiety than usual. In the past, registration was done using alpha groups; students were placed into specific groups and assigned a registration time. These alpha groups rotated from semester to semester, so that even if your group registered last for one semester, you were guaranteed to register first at least once during your college career. However, the process changed this semester, and the changes are not receiving rave reviews.

Under the new system, students receive their registration times randomly. Unlike the previous system, there is no guarantee that a student will, at some point, receive the first registration time. However, according to the Registrar, the new registration procedure was absolutely necessary. The changes that have been made were changes that the Registrar had wanted to make for a long time, and a new function process in the Registrar's software made it simple to make these changes at this time. The Registrar decided to take advantage of this new feature in the software also because of problems experienced with the old system.

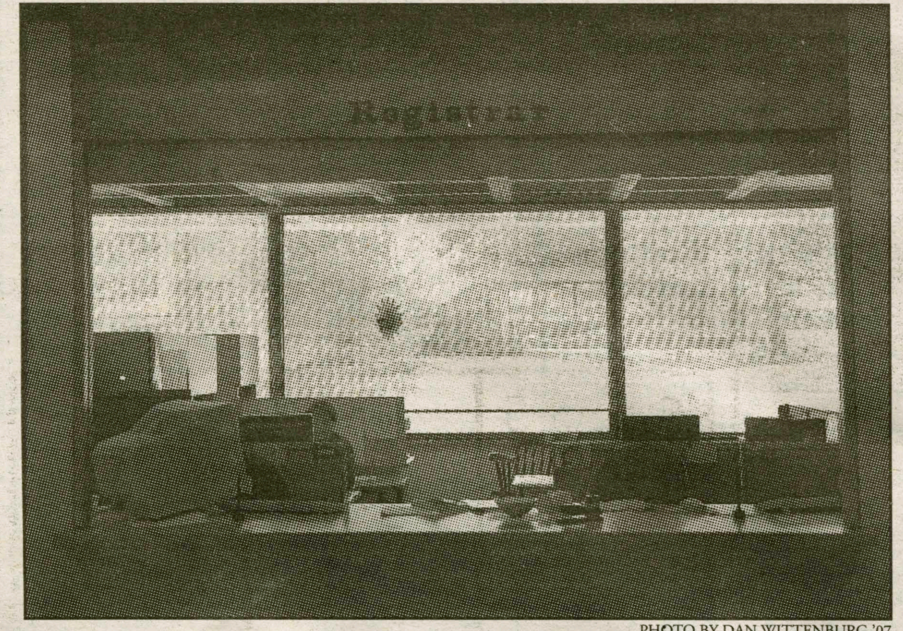


PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBURG '07

Students have a love-hate relationship with the Registrar during the course selection period.

You might remember that in November of 2005, the overwhelming number of students trying to register at the same time slowed the system down and eventually caused it to crash temporariliy. Under the new system, there are more manageable time blocks, and the system will be able to handle all of the requests it receives. Students will no longer have to deal with slow reaction times from Webadvisor or system crashes.

However, some students complain that this new system is not fair. Junior Nancy Shaw had a registration time of 12 p.m. and was anxious for four hours prior, knowing that some of the classes she wanted would be closed out; she feels as though the alpha group system was more fair because it gave everyone the chance to be first to register at some point in his or her college career.

According to the Registrar, however, no system could really be considered fair and the system cannot live up to everyone's expctations.

Freshman Ashley Langer says that the registration process is her least favorite thing about Hamilton because of the new system. Even though the new system has advantages, it is obviously not yet popular with students.

According to the Registrar, however, no system could really be considered fair and the system cannot live up to everyone's expectations. The new system is convenient because it makes it quicker for students to register and the possibility of a system crash has been eliminated.

Editor's Note: According to the Registrar's website, registration this semester and in the future will no longer be assigned by alpha groups, as they were in the past. Instead, "times are randomly assigned by class year." The new system was meant to lower the risk of system failure, reduce server lag "due to heavy registration traffic," and decrease the number of students in each registration group. A new registration group begins every 15 minutes for the duration of the registration period and students can continue to register until the end of the registration period. For more information, please visit the registrar's webpage or stop by the office, which is located on the first floor of the Kirner-Johnson building.

The Do's and Dont's of Style:

Hamilton Style

by Nonny Chizea '08
FEATURES WRITER

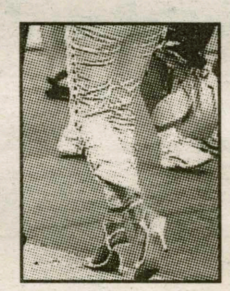
In my two years as a Hamilton College student, I have noticed major fashion "uh oh's," questionable skirts and definite fashion "dont's." I must admit that I have worn some "dont's" as well, but have learned from them. The most common error I have seen is color overkill, as well as some other devastating fashion choices! I have seen girls walk around campus looking like giant bananas (not during pledging season) or wearing way too many "looks" at once. For example, a girl will sometimes wear a pleated jean mini-skirt with patterned tights, cowboy boots, two to three chunky necklaces, and throw on a funky (think 80's) jacket to strut around campus. Some have even included to this "look" the Mary-Kate Olsen / Nicole Ritchie sunglasses! So not hot!

There are times when different looks can be worn without screaming, "Oh my God! Look at me! I want attention!" I am not trying to poke fun at the way people dress; what I am trying to say is that, if you are walking across the Martin's Way bridge and you notice people staring *REALLY* hard at you and you feel *UNCOMFORTABLE* then you should definitely feel uncomfortable. Also, if you ask a friend, "How do I look?" And he or she says, "Oh yeah! You look great," in a hurry, then that person is not your friend because friends don't lie to each other. A real friend will slowly, while avoiding your eyes say, "Hey! You can never go wrong with jeans and a t-shirt!" Jeans and a t-shirt for women and men are always in style. For women, you can spice up that look by wearing a fitted t-shirt, a nice long necklace and maybe flip-flops that match your necklace to balance your look! In this issue, you will see the Do's and Dont's of color and style. I did some research by looking at the new issue of *Glamour Magazine*.

Glamour Magazine's April issue focuses on the Do's and Dont's of wearing bikinis, clothing in your size and the new color trend WHITE. Hopefully by looking at the pictures, you will be able to use your best judgment the next time you get dressed!

Don't POUR yourself into a pair of jeans that are too small.

Do add some color to your look with a scarf. Trend color: WHITE



Don't pile on the trendy stuff, *especially* the look-at-me white.

Do know that a great-cut, black bikini is always a STYLE PLUS!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GLAMOUR MAGAZINE ONLINE

Accepted Students Open House

by Ashley Stagner '09
FEATURES WRITER

The lines of parents and potential students for the class of 2010 streaming out Beinecke this past Monday and Tuesday, and the placement of the large white tent in the quad were subtle hints that it was time once again for the Accepted Students Open House.

The Accepted Students Open House offers the opportunity for accepted students to take a sneak peek into the lives of Hamilton students and leaves parents reassured that Hamilton is the best choice. The Office of Admissions offers many options for prospective students, such as the April visit days, overnights on Tuesdays, Saturday visits, sitting in on classes, and lunch with Hamilton professors, but the Open House is the biggest event that occurs.

The format for this year's Open House has changed from the previous years by dropping the overnight option, starting earlier (beginning at 9a.m. and ending at 5a.m.), adding lunch in the tent in the quad and adding more options for seminars/sessions throughout the day. There were nearly 600 people on campus for the event, along with the numerous juniors in high school that are currently touring the campus.

Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer attributes the Open House's success "to great planning on the part of Associate Dean of Admission Sue Donegan and Admission Special Events Coordinator Gayle James, genuine enthusiasm and support from the Hamilton community that were very eager and excited to show off our campus and celebrate our newest admits and full cooperation from Mother Nature on the glorious weather."

The next big event planned will be the Junior Preview Saturday, taking place this weekend, and more than 200 people are expected. Admitted students and juniors will continue to be visiting the campus throughout April.

According to Inzer, the most recent statistics of the incoming class of 2010 include an average SAT score of 1386. Also, twenty percent of admits are domestic multicultural students and four percent are international. The number of applications this year increased to 4,267, which is an increase of two percent and is also the fifth highest application total in history. The Early Decision applications increased by thirteen percent, and created a new record in Hamilton history. Ninety-two percent of admits are from the top twenty percent of their class and they come from forty-five states and thirty-six countries.

Being only a freshman, I can easily remember coming to the Open House. Well, to be honest, I came to four of them; three were regular Open Houses, and the last was for accepted students. As you can tell, I really wanted to attend Hamilton. Anyway, my own experience at the Open House was fantastic: it was the perfect combination of finding out more facts about Hamilton and also observing the lives of Hamilton students. It also afforded the opportunity to make connections with both professors and students whom I could contact when I came in August.

Although I thought that the Open House format was great, I am also glad to hear about the changes. The idea of having lunch together with all the other accepted students is an excellent idea; it allows for further interaction with others who will most likely be attending Hamilton. The addition of seminars and sessions is beneficial not only for the parents who are curious about what their child will be learning and doing here, but also for the students who are curious about events, activities and future career plans.

Congratulations to those in the Office of Admissions who helped to create such a memorable and successful day for all of the accepted students, and also to all of the students who helped to show off Hamilton's beautiful campus.

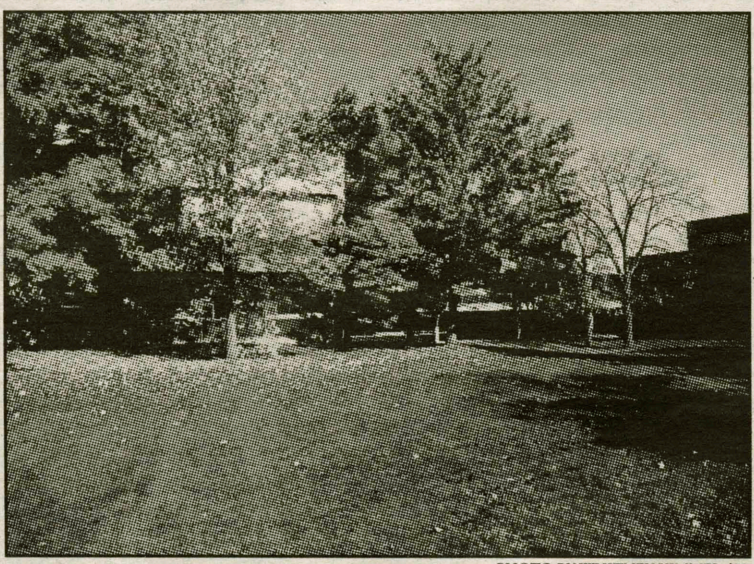


PHOTO BY WHITNEY KIMMEL '08

Another batch of new students will arrive this fall to continue to change the face of Hamilton College.

Sudoku puzzle of the week

by Evelyn Shapiro '06
FEATURES WRITER

Hundreds of newspapers around the world have been publishing daily Sudoku puzzles that push people to use logic and reasoning skills. People from all over have found themselves addicted to Sudoku and countless websites are now devoted to the subject.

The Sudoku puzzles that have taken the world by storm started in Japan, as a form of crosswords. *Su* means "number" in Japanese and *doku* means "bachelor" or "single," so loosely translated, Sudoku means "single number."

The rules of the game are easy. One must place the digits 1 through 9 in the cells of the puzzles so that each digit appears only once in each square, row and column.

6		5			2			9
7				8	9	3		
	8		5					
5	7					4		
	4		9		6		8	
		2					6	1
					3		5	
		7	1	6				
3			8			1		7

From "Super Sudoku, Book 2," by James E. Riley, Ph.D. Published by Good Year Books, 2005.

What to eat: Banana bread

by Sam Gitlitz '08
FEATURES WRITER

With exams coming up, everyone can use a little time to relax and take their mind off of school work. The best way to kick back is to put on some good music, and break out a favorite food. Banana bread is really simple, and most of the ingredients people have handy. Plus, you can steal the bananas from Commons.

Good banana bread is moist and chewy and bursts with banana flavor. As with many baked fruit dishes, the purpose originally was to use spoiled fruit. Many people today recommend using bananas that are going slightly brown. Actually, the bananas should be entirely brown. The difference between good banana bread and great banana bread is how brown the bananas are. Great banana bread is made from bananas that should have been thrown out days ago.

Obviously, its almost impossible to cook something half decent in dorm kitchens. Banana bread is very simple and easy to cook, providing you have one of the working ovens in the suites. When I was abroad in Ireland, Sunday mornings were synonymous with hot banana bread and tea. They loved this recipe so much that their requests for Christmas gifts were loafs of banana bread. One of the great parts of this recipe is that everything can be mixed in one bowl, and then cooked in one pan.

Ingredients
- 1 3/4 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 mashed bananas
- 1/2 cup milk

Instructions:

- Preheat your oven to 350 degrees.

- In a bowl mix all of the dry ingredients together.

- Add in milk, eggs and bananas.

- When they are all well combined, set the bowl aside.

- Grease a 8in bread pan with butter.

- Pour the batter in and place in oven.

- Cook for 45-55 minutes, and rotate the pan every 15 minutes to ensure even baking.

So make some banana bread, kick off your shoes and turn on some Jack Johnson; the triad that ensures a good weekend.

Fast fact: Language Olympics

by John Bartle
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN

Two Hamilton students participated in the fifth annual First Year Russian Language "Olympics," held on the Binghamton University campus on Saturday, April 8. Katherine Koba '08 and Stefanie Whalen '06 joined undergraduates from Binghamton, Hobart-William Smith, Syracuse University and the US Military Academy to compete in various Russian language activities. The students were tested in four areas: recitation from memory of a poem by Alexander S. Pushkin, a five-minute extemporaneous speech on their interests and background, a written exam and a sight reading. Professors from the five institutions served as judges and the day-long event concluded with a late lunch and awards ceremony. The friendly competition provides students with the opportunity to meet and interact with their peers in an informal setting. For more information about the event, please contact John Bartle in the Russian Studies Department.

Focus on Fitness: The importance of breakfast

by Michelle Butler '06
FEATURES WRITER

Every morning at 7:30, I plod over to Commons for breakfast. Initially, I was one of the only students there; perhaps four or five others were scattered throughout the dining hall, each of us at our own table, heads bent over eggs and books. Now an early morning breakfast has become a bit more common, particularly since some students now rush in to eat before their 8 a.m. classes, but the numbers remain slim.

I have always considered breakfast to be the most important meal of the day. Maybe it's because my parents, a doctor and a nurse, pounded this notion into my head, or maybe it's because I really enjoy eating cooked eggs. Even in high school when all I had time for was a bowl of Frosted Mini-Wheats or frozen waffles, I always made sure I ate something before I embarked on a new day. I'm usually starving when I wake up, and if I don't eat something, I feel completely out of it and definitely quite cranky and ravenous by lunchtime. I definitely will not have the energy required to workout later on.

I never understood the people who could wake up, get dressed and go to class without eating at least a granola bar or something small. I personally cannot concentrate when I feel miserable, shaky and my stomach is rumbling. If you think about it, your body has been fasting from the time you ate dinner or had a late-night snack, and therefore your blood-sugar will be quite low in the mornings. This is especially true for those of you who exercise in the afternoon or evening. Your brain and your muscles need glucose in order to function, so if you continue fasting, you can actually harm your own body. However, if you eat something, even if it's just a banana or dry Cheerios, you will not only have more physical energy, but will also be happier, focused and much more productive.

I could continue arguing for the consumption of breakfast, but instead, I thought I ought to put myself in others' shoes, or look at things from a different perspective. I sat here for awhile at my favorite computer in the library and pondered reasons as to why people wouldn't eat breakfast. Yet as you will notice, I also formulated a few solutions to counter these reasons.

My first thought was that maybe people don't have time in the morning before class. Then again, that's a silly excuse. If you set your alarm clock even just ten minutes earlier, you can get up and dressed, walk over to Commons, McEwen or the diner, and have plenty of time to make a bagel, toast, egg sandwich, or perhaps grab a yogurt or a piece of fruit. Plus, sometimes a glass of juice, milk or a cup of coffee or tea can really make a class more enjoyable. Waking up ten minutes earlier is not difficult, and will not significantly cut into your precious sleeping time.

If you are really in a hurry, or cannot sacrifice your sleeping time, take a couple pieces of fruit from the dining halls, throw some yogurt in a cup and stick it in your fridge overnight, or have granola bars or instant oatmeal on hand so that you can fix yourself a quick breakfast and head directly to class. That way you can get your sleep AND nourish yourself.

Second, I remember talking to friends who were never hungry in the mornings. This is the excuse my seventeen-year old brother often makes as well. However, you ought to eat something small anyway to help your body function as efficiently as possible. Again, just a simple piece of toast or fruit is much better than nothing at all.

Thirdly, I know people who do not like breakfast foods. They wait to eat until lunch just because there is nothing they like. A peanut-butter and jelly, or peanut-butter and banana, sandwich will do just fine in that case. You could use either regular bread like you would at lunchtime, or try an English muffin or a bagel. Did you order late-night pizza recently? If you ever have leftovers, throw them in a container, or wrap them with tin foil or plastic wrap and have a slice for breakfast. You can also ask the friendly omelet chefs for a slice or two of cheese, slap it in between two pieces of bread, and make your own grilled cheese on the Foreman.

Sure, my 7:30 a.m. routine isn't for everyone. But what IS for everyone is the opportunity to enjoy a nice meal to start off your day, thus eliminating any excruciating pangs of starvation or feelings of crabbiness as you wait for lunchtime. And most importantly, eating breakfast will help and enhance your body by providing it with sustenance.

Weekly Events: Where you want to be!

Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.
Think Tank with Prof. Peter Rabinowitz 12:00-1:00	MCAT Examination 8:00-5:00	General Housing Lottery 9:00-9:00	AIDS Hike for Life Table in Beinecke 10:30-1:30	AIDS Hike for Life Table in Beinecke 11:30-1:30	AIDS Hike for Life Table in Beinecke 11:30-1:30	AIDS Hike for Life Table in Beinecke 11:30-1:30
Chemistry Seminar 3:00-4:00	Admissions: Junior Preview Day 9:00-5:00	Newman Mass 1:00-2:00	Swimming Clinic for HamTrek 4:30-5:30	HAVOC Brown Bag Lunch: The City as Enviornment 12:00-1:00	W. Softball v. SUNY I.T. 3:30	Newman Mass 12:00-1:00
W. Lacrosse v. Skidmore 4:00	M. & W. Crew v. Vassar 9:00	F.I.L.M. Series: Shiho Kano Presents Recent Film and Video (2:00-3:30)	Senior Dinner 6:00-7:30	Newman Mass 12:00-1:00	W. Lacrosse v. Ithaca College 4:00	Collection Day for AIDS Hike for Life 4:00-7:00
Sex Jeopardy in the Pub 4:00-6:00	W. Softball v. Amherst 1:00	WIAA Meeting 2:00-3:00	HOC Open Hours 7:00-9:00	CACC Meeting (3:00-4:00	M. Tennis v. Rensselaer 4:00	Great Names pre-lecture talk and buffet dinner 4:30-6:30
B.S.U. Meeting (5:00-6:00)	Anime Club 2:00-3:00	Documentary: The Great Warming 8:00-9:30	Invisible Children: Documentary and National Tour Presentation 8:00-11:00	W. Softball v. Union 3:30	CAB Meeting 7:00-8:00	Swimming Clinic for HamTrek 4:30-5:30
Hamilton Chamber Ensembles Concert 8:00-9:00	W. Lacrosse v. Union 2:00		Hamilton College and Community Oratoria Society Spring Concert 8:00-9:30	Interviewing Skills Workshop (4:30-5:30)	M. Lacrosse v. Union (Senior Night) 7:00	HOC Open Hours 7:00-9:00
Spring Theater Production 8:00-10:00	Village Harmony Concert 7:30-10:00			Sitting Club 7:00-8:00	Hamilton College Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert 9:00-10:00	Sacerdote Great Names Lecture: Tom Brokaw 7:30-8:30
	CAB Film: The Princess Bride 8:00-10:30			Womyn's Center Meeting 7:00-8:00		
	Spring Theater Production 8:00-10:00			IMF Concert: Bell Orchestre 8:30-2:00		

The test of the true Hamilton student

How you know you are ready to graduate

By Emily Maltby '06
FEATURES EDITOR

Here is a list of clean, fun activities that can help determine whether your time at Hamilton is complete. The below list was compiled through a survey of 20 students, asking what a student should do to have the truest Hamilton experience (sex, drugs, and rock and roll aside) before graduation. The list is in no particular order. Test where you stand.

-Look for the drums in the glen
Look on the map at the entrance of the glen and you will see a symbol labeled "drums." Beware! You may have to do some bush-whacking to get there.

-Rock swing
You don't need to join the unofficial Varsity Rock Swing team (yes, it does exist) to enjoy this piece of art. The structure can withstand a higher velocity than most imagine. So hold tight and start swaying.

-Have a philosophical conversation on the Adirondack Porch
One of the best places to chat, the Adirondack Porch has not been widely used since President Tobin held his open hours there. Rediscover this spot.

-See a Minor Theater production
Because of the peculiar setup, the audience is often on the stage. Try finding that kind of seating on Broadway.

-Study abroad
After all, it will at least serve as a reprieve from the harsh winters.

-Find the frog on the bronze map
This is actually common knowledge, so don't worry if you are on all fours trying to find it. People might even stop to give you hints regarding its whereabouts.

-Chase the Martin's Way cat
Because we all know you certainly can't catch him.

-Take advantage of the 21 meal plan
This means use up all the bonus meals. If you don't want them, give them to some poor senior on the 7 meal plan. They will pay you in kind.

-Eat at Dinosaur Barbeque
The pulled pork sandwich is worth the 45-minute drive and 2-hour wait.

-Talk to the Dining Hall staff
They are all amazing people with great stories. And after all, they do feed you.

-Stock up on condoms from the Health Center
For physics experiments, of course. A condom can actually hold over five gallons of water. Try it one day.

-TraySled
THE winter sport of Hamilton.

-Visit the Cider Mill
In the autumn, the Cider Mill in Clinton is a fun place to visit to buy apples, cider, cider slushies, applesauce, cheese and many other great tasting foods. Also, the staff are really nice.

-Win something at Acoustic Coffeehouse
Or at least go to increase your chances.

-Set foot in the Science Building
If you didn't go on the tour at the opening ceremony, find a science student who can show you around. There's actually a reason why the front facade is at an angle, why the stairs are "layered" and why the seats are made from the most unexpected recycled materials.

-Eat a Mango Brie Panini
It is a great change from the usual lunch menus and inexpensive for its flavor.

-Kill a South Bug
These insects were more well-known years ago but they still pop out of the South dorm sinks every so often. There really is no scientific name for these creatures but killing them often results in a foul, yet unique, smell.

-Take Psych 101
It's part of the liberal arts education.

-Write a Thesis
In fact, write two if the mood strikes, but make sure they are not in the same semester.

-Live in Bundy
It is a culture of its own and the atmosphere is inviting…if you have the motivation to walk all that long way.

-Do Hamtrek
Even if you are not an amazing athlete, this activity brings the campus community together to show great school spirit.

-Engage in a HAVOC activity
There are so many, the probability is that by the end of freshman year, you already have done something relating to HAVOC. Giving back to the community doesn't take much time and makes you a better person.

-See Utica from the roof of South
The view is fun if you are not scared of heights. If you need a view without the fear of sliding down the sloped surface, try the roof of the art building.

-Slip on the winter ice outside the back door of CJ
No matter how many times that frozen puddle gets salted, it refuses to melt.

-Start a prank war
This is particularly fun between two (or more) dark-side suites.

-Do Adirondack Adventure
This point is a little after-the-fact. But you know that everyone who didn't do it is regretting it.

-Stay at Hamilton for a summer
There are many options to staying, from research to working with physical plant. The summer is beautiful in upstate New York and the campus comes alive with barbeques and baseball.

-Go on the Arboretum Tour
The tour starts in the gazebo behind admissions. It takes about an hour.

-Get lost in Utica
Because the best part is that if you keep driving, you will eventually find a street that you recognize.

-Host a Prospie
They're like rent-a-friend, but free.

-Camp on Minor Field or the golf course
These are the darkest places on campus where you can stargaze and, on a clear night, see the Milky Way and shooting stars.

-Take a nap in Opus I
The couches are supremely comfortable for a little between-class shuteye.

-Explore the cemetery
The cemetery is an amazing piece of history. If not interested in the graves, check out the preserved pillars from the original library.

-See the "Wag" video
This "documentary" was made several years ago and some copies still survive (mostly among seniors). It is a very funny video about life at Hamilton that should not be missed.

-Visit the 3rd floor of ELS
But don't take anything.

-Go to the Career Center
They will help you find a job. Promise.

-Contribute to the wall art in the pub bathrooms
Profane is mundane in the stalls. Try a haiku.

-Get 1-3 points
It just means you were having fun. More than that is dangerous.

-Run through the sprinklers on the football field
There are lots of them going at the same time; you owe it to your five year old inner self.

-Eat at TexMex
Cheap. Filling. Reliable.

-Befriend the Craig's Kegs cashier
Even on the gloomiest days he is able to wish his customers a great day.

-Go to the Utica Zoo
The animals aren't the friendliest and the living conditions will bring you to tears, but you can enter the animal drawing contest and win a prize.

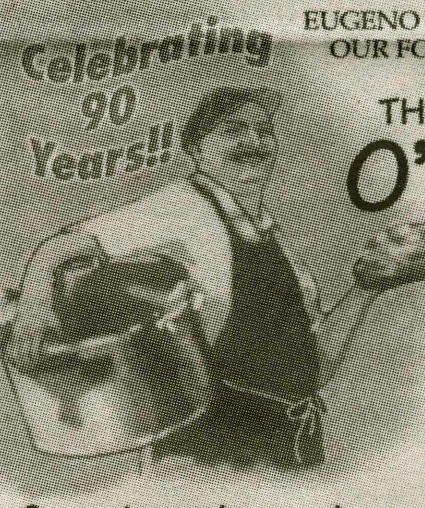
-Take the Brewery Tour
The gift shop is worth the trip alone.

-Catch some sun on the ledge of a Darkside building
Suggestions are the ledges facing Minor Field between the hours of 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

-Walk College Hill Road
Estimate 25 minutes down, 40 minutes back up.

-Visit the Resevoir
It is illegal to swim, but quite a scenic spot.

-Streak
Even if you are streaking in the dark in a secluded part of campus, you are still streaking.



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May Day: The most fun thing since sex!!!!!!!!!

By Katherine A. Jurras '06
Arts & Entertainment Editor

This year's May Day Music Festival promises to bring to campus some of the best independent acts of today, representing a broad range of musical styles. In short, you will fall in love with at least one (realistically, two or three) new artists you may have never heard before.

Saturday, April 29, 2006 marks the third annual May Day Music Festival sponsored by CAB, WHCL and the IMF. The event provides the East Coast with an alternative to indie rock's biggest event of the year (taking place the same weekend), the Coachella Valley Music Festival in Indio, California. The event is free to all and scheduled to take place on Minor Field ,complete with five fun inflatable carnivalesque contraptions!

PHOTO COURTESY OF .GBV.COM

The New Pornographers will open on May Day.

The headliners, The New Pornographers, are a Canadian supergroup (no, really!) that has very quickly become one of the most recognizable mainstays of indie rock. Their unique brand of pop music features quirky, upbeat anthems reminiscent of Ted Leo & the Pharmacists, Spoon, and the Shins. If you're looking for a new song to blare out of your car speakers this summer, download "The Laws Have Changed" or "Letter From an Occupant." Check out a few tracks from their most recent album at (myspace. com/thenewpornographers)

Ideal for both hip hop and electro-pop fans, Chromeo describe themselves as "walking hip hop encyclopedias" and "the only successful Arab/Jew partnership since the dawn of human culture." I issue a challenge: find me a catchier song on mainstream radio than Chromeo's "Needy Girl." It's impossible. Funked out basslines, retro 80s synths, and a sick rhythm keep you coming back for more. Honestly, take two seconds to hear it in full at (myspace. com/chromeo).

Athens, Georgia-based Elf Power carry on the lo-fi indie pop tradition of fellow Elephant 6 collective bands such as Neutral Milk Hotel, the Apples in Stereo, and the Olivia Tremor Control. Their upcoming LP, "Back to the Web," shows a move toward dreamier acoustic guitar-based pop. It makes more sense when you hear it! Head over to: myspace.com/elfpowerband.

The acoustic guitar is treated quite differently by Ris Paul Ric (a.k.a Chris Paul Richards, former frontman for D.C. post-punk all-stars Q and not U). In his solo debut, Purple Blaze, he creates rich textures with the instrument unlike any cheery singer-songwriter. In his live show, he manipulates the classic acoustic guitar sound with an array of effects pedals. If you're tired of the same old fireside guitar strummers, hearing Ris Paul Ric will be like swallowing a breath of bizarre, yet fresh air (myspace. com/rispaulric).

PHOTO COURTESY OF HATHAWAYMIX.ORG

Chromeo. Some crazy dudes.

Let's not forget Hamilton College's most acclaimed on-campus band, Zeaskeez, with their slick jam rock stylings. Packed, sweaty performances at the Pub have developed their huge fan base, but they're clearly ready for a bigger stage. If you haven't already heard them, Zeaskeez incorporates timely horns, innovative time changes, and varied song structures to bring something new to an genre that too often settles for convention. (myspace.com/zeaskeez)

Presiding over the events and scratching between sets is Baltimore-based DJ Dave Nada. A quick listen to his sample material on myspace shows what separates him from his contemporaries: incredible and diverse taste combining the best in mainstream and independent music. He seamlessly splices such artists as Daft Punk, Sean Paul, LCD Soundsystem, Gorillaz, Out Hud, and Jay-Z. He claims to have one goal in mind: to make that ass shake (myspace. com/davenada).

May Day 2006 looks like it's going to be the biggest on-campus music event since 2003's Rock Your Indie Heart Fest. This time, however, the lineup is tight from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Music fans of all persuasions will find something to their liking, and hopefully end up liking something new and different.

Chamber Ensemble

By Paul Bleiberg '06
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Department of Music at Hamilton College presents An Evening of Chamber Music on Friday, April 21 at 8 p.m. at Wellin Hall in the Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts.

This performance will feature the world premiere of Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Gabriel Ian Gould's Root Glen Dances and Alex Taddei's '06 Divertimento. The instrumental chamber ensembles, under the direction of Assistant Professor of Music Heather Buchman, Florent Renard-Payen, and Lecturer in Oboe Dan Carno, will also perform works by James Boeringer (b. 1930), Louis Maurer (1789-1878) Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791).

The student performers will be Mary Beth Day '08, Adele Paquin '07, Paul Bleiberg '06, Andrew Fulton '06, YiYang Cao '09, Sarah Wissel '08, Katie Naughton '08, Sarah Prusasky, Alex Taddei, Jen Buttery'06, Yubo Lu '07, Alix Lamsa '08, Helen Lok '08, Heather Montana '07, Chelsea Bryant '08, Caryn Mickle '06, Lauren Steates '07, Heather Michael '07, Rachel Bennek '07, Mark Fitzsimmons '09, and Katy Hill '09. Also featured at this performance will be Associate Professor of Music "Doctuh" Michael Woods and Jeff Stockham, Lecturer in Jazz Trumpet.

Gould received his bachelor's degree from Bard College, where he studied with Joan Tower and Daren Hagen, and his Masters of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in composition from the University of Michigan, where he studied with William Albright and William Bolcom.

He has been commissioned by the Albany and Ann Arbor Symphonies, the Woodstock Chamber Orchestra; and the new music group Dogs of Desire. Root Glen Dances was commissioned for the students in the Hamilton College Chamber Music Program.

The composer writes, "the Root Glen is a wooded ravine on the campus of Hamilton College. Since 1850, the College has been planting an enormous variety of trees, shrubs and flowers, in an ongoing effort to create a unique collection of specimens, some quite rare and distinguished. I have spent many hours in the Root Glen admiring not only the landscape but also many individual trees. The Glen in many ways represents my strongest feelings about the College and the campus. I chose five specific trees, which would identify each of the movements of a standard dance suite, and tried to associate each dance with the character of the tree."

This performance is free and open to the public. All seating is general admission. For more information or tickets, call the box office at (315) 859-4331, 1-4 p.m. weekdays.

Doc Woods presents New Grooves

By Paul Bleiberg '06
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Hamilton College Department of Music presents New Grooves for an American Orchestra on Tuesday, May 2, at 8 p.m. at Wellin Hall in the Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts on the Hamilton campus.

Associate Professor of Music "Doctuh" Michael Woods brings together the "New York FunkHarmonic" for a night of music that knows no boundaries. Drawing from influences from pop, rock, jazz, world; and just about anything else you can imagine, this chamber orchestra will perform compositions by Woods and world premiere a commission by Bill Banfield.

Woods is the director of Jazz Studies at Hamilton College. Born in Akron, Ohio in 1952, he grew up listening to black gospel music and rhythm and blues. Woods studied music formally at Akron University where he finished with a B.M. degree in composition. He went on to obtain two masters degrees from Indiana University and received his doctorate in music composition at the University of Oklahoma in 1991. Woods also studied jazz arranging and film scoring at Berklee College of Music in Boston and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in arts administration. As a composer, Woods was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. He has written more than 500 pieces in all styles. His compositions have been performed by the Albany Symphony, the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, the Little Rock Symphony, the Tulsa Philharmonic, the Lafayette Symphony (Lafayette, IN), the Pro Musica Orchestra (Columbus, IN), the Central New York Jazz Orchestra and the Salt City Jazz Collective.

Bill Banfield, composer, guitarist, educator and author, currently serves as professor of Africana studies, music/society, at Berklee College of Music. His works have been performed by the National, Detroit, Atlanta, Dallas, Sacramento, Indianapolis, Toledo and Akron symphonies. Banfield is the author of "Landscapes in Color: Conversations With Black American Composers and Black Notes: Essays Of A Musician Writing In A Post Album Age." He writes for Downbeat Magazine.

This performance is free and open to the public. All seating is general admission. For more information or tickets, call the box office at (315) 859-4331, 1-4 p.m. weekdays.

Things that are cool: writing about bands.

Ways to be cool: Write for A & E.

E-mail kjurras and be cool.

Shakira shakes her hips to the top of the charts

By Nonny Chizea '08
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Rapid, sensual, and sultry hip movement has kept Shakira alive in the music industry. The singer is a native of Colombia. Her mother is of Catalan and Italian descent and her father is American-born of Lebanese background. Shakira began writing songs at the extremely early age of eight. One of her first songs was called "Tus Gafas Oscuras;" written about her father's grief over the loss of his son in a car accident. At the age of ten, Shakira applied for her school choir, but she was rejected for having too strong a voice, resulting in much teasing from her friends who compared her voice to a goat's. Shakira started looking for other singing opportunities, eventually competing in a weekly television show for children called "Vivan Los Niños."

Shakira recorded "Magia," (Magic) her debut album, at the age of 13 with Sony Colombia in 1991. The album consisted of songs the she wrote at the age of eight. Unfortunately, they were not good enough for commercial success. Less than a thousand copies were sold, but the album is now a collector's item.

In 1993, Shakira recorded "Peligro," (Danger), her second album, at the age of 15. The album was also released through Sony Columbia Records. Shakira enjoyed minimal success with this album, but decided to put her recording career on hold in order to graduate from high school.

In early 1995, Shakira returned to the music business with the release of her third album, "Pies Descalzos" (Bare Feet). This album established Shakira as a successful commercial artist. Her fourth album "The Remixes," was recorded quickly and included remixes of songs from "Pies Descalzos." Some of these songs were also recorded in Portuguese.

Immediately after the release of "The Remixes," Shakira met and became friends with Emilio Estefan, Jr., Gloria Estefan's husband. Mr. Estefan worked as the executive producer on Shakira's fourth studio album, "¿Donde Stan Los Ladrones?" (Where Are the Thieves?). The production was very expensive, costing approximately $3 million. Singles from the album are "Ciega Sordomuda," "Moscas En La Casa," "No Creo," "¿Donde Están Los Ladrones?," "Inevitable," "Tú," "Si Te Vas," "and Octavo Día." "Ojos Así" was the only song on the album to gain worldwide success. Shakira brought a new blend of rock and Latin, which helped this album gain international success. MTV Unplugged asked Shakira to produce a live album based on singles from "¿Dónde Están Los Ladrones?" She accepted.

March 2000 marked the beginning of Shakira's three-month long "Tour Anfibio." The tour started in Panama and ended in Argentina, based on popular demand. At the August 2000 MTV Video Music Awards, Shakira won International Viewer's Choice for "Ojos Asi." The award does not exist anymore.

Following the success of "¿Dónde Están Los Ladrones?" Shakira began working on a crossover album to the English language. She collaborated with Gloria Estefan and wrote and recorded English versions of her songs from "¿Dónde Están Los Ladrones?" The new songs were also composed for "Laundry Service," Shakira's first English language album. The album not only contained English songs for the English market, but it also included four Spanish songs, including "Que Me Quedes Tú." Critics claimed that Shakira's English was too weak for her to write, but "Laundry Service" was a success, with the worldwide hit "Whenever, Wherever" and singles "Underneath Your Clothes" (a Canadian number-one), "Te Dejo Madrid," "Objection (Tango)," and "The One."

Shakira also released the Spanish greatest hits volume "Grandes éxitos" in 2002. In 2004, a DVD and a ten-track compilation album called "Live & Off the Record" was released, commemorating Shakira's 2002-2003 world tour, the "Tour of the Mongoose." The name of the tour in based on the ability of a mongoose to defeat a cobra without being killed by its poison. During the concerts Shakira showed pictures of a mongoose fighting a cobra.

Shakira won the last International Viewer's Choice Award at the 2002 MTV Video Music Awards for "Suerte." "In October of that year, she won 5 MTV Video Music Awards Latin America for Best Female Artist, Best Pop Artist, Best Artist—North (Region), Video of the Year (for Suerte), and Artist of the Year. At Aerosmith's MTV Icon in 2002, Shakira performed "Dude (Looks Like A Lady)." In 2002 Shakira sang with performers like Celine Dion, Anastacia, Cher and The Dixie Chicks for VH1 Divas Live Las Vegas.

For about two years, Shakira was inactive in the music industry, but on June 6, 2005 "Fijación Oral Vol. 1" was released in Europe and on June 7 in North America and Australia. The hit single "La Tortura" attained the number twenty-three spot on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100, the highest position for a Spanish song in the United States. "La Tortura" also became the highest-charting Spanish song in Canada, debuting and peaking at number twenty-one. The success of the album across the globe was widespread because it peaked in the top 10 on almost every chart it was on. "La Tortura" twenty-five weeks at number one on the Billboard Hot Latin Tracks chart in the US. It is the most successful Latin single ever.

Fijación Oral Vol. 1 was simultaneously released in Latin America and debuted at number four on the U.S. Billboard 200. It is currently the best-selling Spanish first-week sales album. The album was very well received in non-Spanish speaking countries like Italy and Germany. It reached number one in Austria, number three in Canada and number seven in Hungary. The second single from Fijación Oral Vol. 1, "No" (English: No), was released in September 2005. It failed to match the international chart success of "La Tortura," but it peaked at number one in Colombia for fourteen non-consecutive weeks.

At the Hackney Empire in Hackney, East London, England on October 30, 2005 Shakira presented her new album "Oral Fixation Vol. 2," to more than two hundred and fifty competition winners and selected members of the British press. MTV hosted the concert, and it was featured in the MTV 5 Star campaign following her performance. Shakira is one of the first artists to be featured for the campaign.

On November 29, 2005 in North America and Australia, Shakira's second English album "Oral Fixation Vol. 2" was released and also at this time in Continental Europe. "Don't Bother" has been well-received by music-critics as the album's lead single, but failed to peak within the U.S. top forty. On February 8, 2006, Shakira won a Grammy Award in the category of "Best Latin Rock Album" for Fijación Oral Vol. 1."

"Hips Don't Lie" (featuring Wyclef Jean) was released in 2006 as the second single from Oral Fixation Vol. 2. On March 28, 2006, she re-released Oral Fixation Vol. 2." You can listen to "Hip Don't Lie" on WHCL 88.7FM's 'Sugar my Spice" on Thursdays from noon to 1p.m. until the end of the year!

Josh Ritter and Ian Love

By Nicole Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Science majors everywhere should love Josh Ritter. One of his most memorable comments from his performance last Thursday, April 13 in the Events Barn was: "So I was studying Organic Chemistry and listening to Johnny Cash when I realized that benzene is the ring of fire."

Hailing from Idaho, 29 year old Josh Ritter opened up his set with a song, fittingly, about Idaho. With a smooth voice, meaningful lyrics and outstanding guitar skills, Ritter serenaded a packed Events Barn, telling stories of his life in between songs. The stories included the time when he wrote a girl's name on a water tower (water soluble paint recommended) and how he used to drive a girl he had a crush on all over even though she had a boyfriend. His witty anecdotes kept the audience entertained while he tuned up; like the story of how he just bought a new house and everyone is welcome to visit him, but you may or may not end up electrocuted by his doorbell that he may or may not have installed correctly.

Huge in Ireland and the United Kingdom, Josh Ritter has released three albums: "The Golden Age of Radio" (2002), "Hello Starling" (2003), and "The Animal Years" (2006). The albums contain what are sure to be future classics.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCD.IE

Josh Ritter = great.

Having been hailed as even more stirring and more deeply conceptual than bands such as Bright Eyes or Wilco by publications from the *New York Times* to *Details Magazine*, Ritter has definitely become a campus favorite and potentially a returning visitor, much like Ellis Paul. The day of his performance at Hamilton College, Josh Ritter was the featured artist on Myspace.com and was a huge proponent of Myspace.

The opening act, Ian Love (who is also on Myspace), was recently featured on Spin.com as "Band of the Day" and graced Hamilton College with music reminiscent of Jimi Hendrix and other classic rockers. Having recently released his self-titled album on Limekiln Records, Love writes music that incorporates tales from his life that have shaped him, particularly his time in rehab and the recent birth of his daughter. Formerly a member of successful bands Burn, Rival Schools and Cardia, Love decided to move on to a new step in his musical career with a solo album. Much like Josh Ritter, Ian Love is very popular in Ireland and the United Kingdom (which kind of almost proves that the United Kingdom is the place to start if you want to make it big).

If you would like to find out more about either Josh Ritter or Ian Love, you can visit their websites at: www.joshritter.com or www.myspace.com/joshritter and www.ianlove.com or www.myspace.com/ianlove.

Correction

In Nonny Chizea's article April 14 article, "The Pussycat Dolls," the singers should have been listed in the following order (from left to right): Kimberly Wyatt, Melody Thornton, Founder of and choreographer for the Dolls Robin Antin, Nicole Scherzinger, Carmit Bachar, Ashley Roberts and Jessica Sutta.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGIN.NET

The Pussycat Dolls and their founder.

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JENNIFER ANISTON-FRANCES MCDORMAND
friendswithmoney
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SCARY MOVIE 4
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ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN
●12:20●2:30-4:40-6:50-9:00 DTS PG

THE BENCHWARMERS
●1:00●3:00-5:00-7:05-9:05 PG-13

DISNEY'S THE WILD
●12:10●2:15-4:25-6:40-8:40 G

TAKE THE LEAD ●12:05●2:25-6:55 PG-13

LARRY THE CABLE GUY 9:20 PG-13

LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
●12:25●2:45-5:05-7:25-9:50 R

FAILURE TO LAUNCH 4:50 PG-13

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Please submit a letter of application explaining your interest, qualifications and relevant experience, and a resume to Lisa Magnarelli, Director of Student Activities.

The deadline is Friday, April 21. For a full job description or for more information please contact Theresa Gallagher @ tgallagh@hamilton.edu

Nuclear power takes a hold on the U.S. energy industry

by Jessica Wolinsky '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Over the last two decades, Americans have become culturally and politically removed from the controversial issue of nuclear energy. Since the late 1970s, the construction and operation of nuclear power plants in the United States has virtually ceased. According to a report on MSNBC, the most recent license to result in a functioning nuclear facility was awarded in 1973. Even such consciousness-raising disasters as the nuclear reactor explosions at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl seem to have faded into an elusive and negligible past.

This disconnection from nuclear energy is all about to change, however, as power companies plan to build the first large-scale wave of nuclear power plants in the U.S. since the 1970s. The federal Department of Energy predicts that the U.S. demand for electrical power will increase by 50 percent by the year 2025. To keep up with the exponential increase in U.S. energy consumption, power companies feel pressure to consider alternative fuel sources such as nuclear power.

Duke Power announced last month that it plans to build a nuclear facility in Gaffney, South Carolina, a small rural community starving for any type of industrial activity to help boost its economy. This facility should be fully operational by the year 2016. Nine other power companies have also recently declared their intentions to build 19 nuclear power plants throughout the southern states.

The U.S. currently has 104 commercial nuclear generating units built over the past 30 years. An additional 19 nuclear facilities just in the next 10 years will lead to a substantial and rapid increase in US nuclear power production. Rather than wondering *if* nuclear power plants will ever significantly contribute to the U.S. energy industry, Americans should now ask when, where, and how many facilities are likely to appear across the country.

For the residents of Gaffney, SC, the prospect of a nuclear power plant in the community has elicited predominately positive responses. The town currently lacks any thriving industry as the local textile mills have recently closed, and the central downtown area consists only of small shops and empty storefronts. Between 1999-2003 alone, over 2,500 textile employees lost their jobs. The new nuclear power plant, on the other hand, promises to create 1,500 new jobs during the plant's construction phase, and 1,000 jobs once the plant becomes fully operational. The facility also expects to pay $8.5 million in annual taxes to be split between the county and the state.

Most of the other power companies have also targeted similar small, rural, southern communities as potential sites for their nuclear facilities. Focusing solely on the economic benefits of a nuclear power plant in these towns has prevented the community members from considering the potential disadvantages of nuclear energy, most specifically the threat of a nuclear meltdown.

This coming Wednesday, April 26 marks the 20-year anniversary of Chernobyl, the worst nuclear accident the world has ever seen. On April 26, 1986 a nuclear reactor exploded at a power plant in Ukraine. For the next two weeks, dark and ominous radioactive clouds covered Ukraine and much of Europe. While the environmental and human health effects of this explosion are still contested today, the UN estimates that 4,000 people are likely to die from radiation exposure, whereas the Greenpeace predicts more than 90,000 fatalities.

Nuclear power provides a potentially sustainable form of energy that does not produce any of the same harmful greenhouse gases that result from the production of fossil fuels. However, the waste products nuclear energy does generate are extremely toxic and thus must be properly disposed of somewhere in the environment. Also, while the threat of a nuclear reactor explosion might be rare, the results of such a disaster is extremely detrimental to the land and the people for generations to follow. As nuclear energy starts to play a greater role in the U.S. energy industry in the upcoming decades, Americans must start to consider their position on this controversial energy alternative.

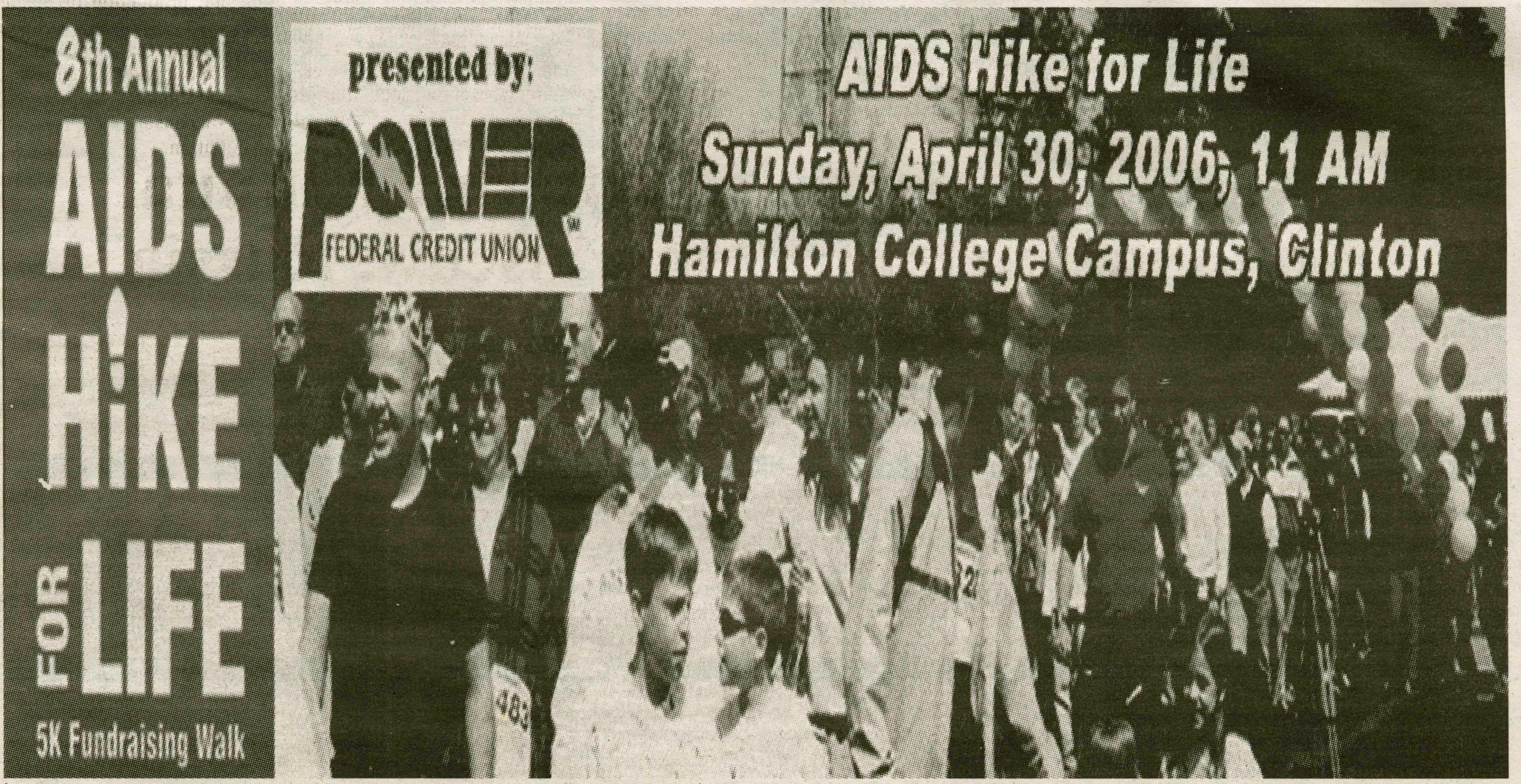
Darwin Award of the week

Parents often warn that firecrackers can blow your hand off, but as a 26-year-old Australian learned, they can also remove your gonads from the gene pool. An ambulance rushed to an Illawarra park after receiving reports that a man was hemorrhaging from his behind. The mercifully unidentified man had placed a lit firecracker between the cheeks of his buttocks, stumbled, and fell upon it.

"We do caution people against these acts," said a local policeman.

Emergency surgeon Dr. McCurdie said the resulting wound looked like "a war injury." The explosion was forced upward, "blasted a great hole in the pelvis, ruptured the urethra, and injured muscles," rendering the man incontinent as well as sexually dysfunctional. He survived to tell the tale, making him eligible for the dubious honor of a Living Darwin Award.

from Darwinawards.com



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Most of the other power companies have also targeted similar small, rural, southern communities as potential sites for their nuclear facilities. Focusing solely on the economic benefits of a nuclear power plant in these towns has prevented the community members from considering the potential disadvantages of nuclear energy, most specifically the threat of a nuclear meltdown.

This coming Wednesday, April 26 marks the 20-year anniversary of Chernobyl, the worst nuclear accident the world has ever seen. On April 26, 1986 a nuclear reactor exploded at a power plant in Ukraine. For the next two weeks, dark and ominous radioactive clouds covered Ukraine and much of Europe. While the environmental and human health effects of this explosion are still contested today, the UN estimates that 4,000 people are likely to die from radiation exposure, whereas the Greenpeace predicts more than 90,000 fatalities.

Nuclear power provides a potentially sustainable form of energy that does not produce any of the same harmful greenhouse gases that result from the production of fossil fuels. However, the waste products nuclear energy does generate are extremely toxic and thus must be properly disposed of somewhere in the environment. Also, while the threat of a nuclear reactor explosion might be rare, the results of such a disaster is extremely detrimental to the land and the people for generations to follow. As nuclear energy starts to play a greater role in the U.S. energy industry in the upcoming decades, Americans must start to consider their position on this controversial energy alternative.

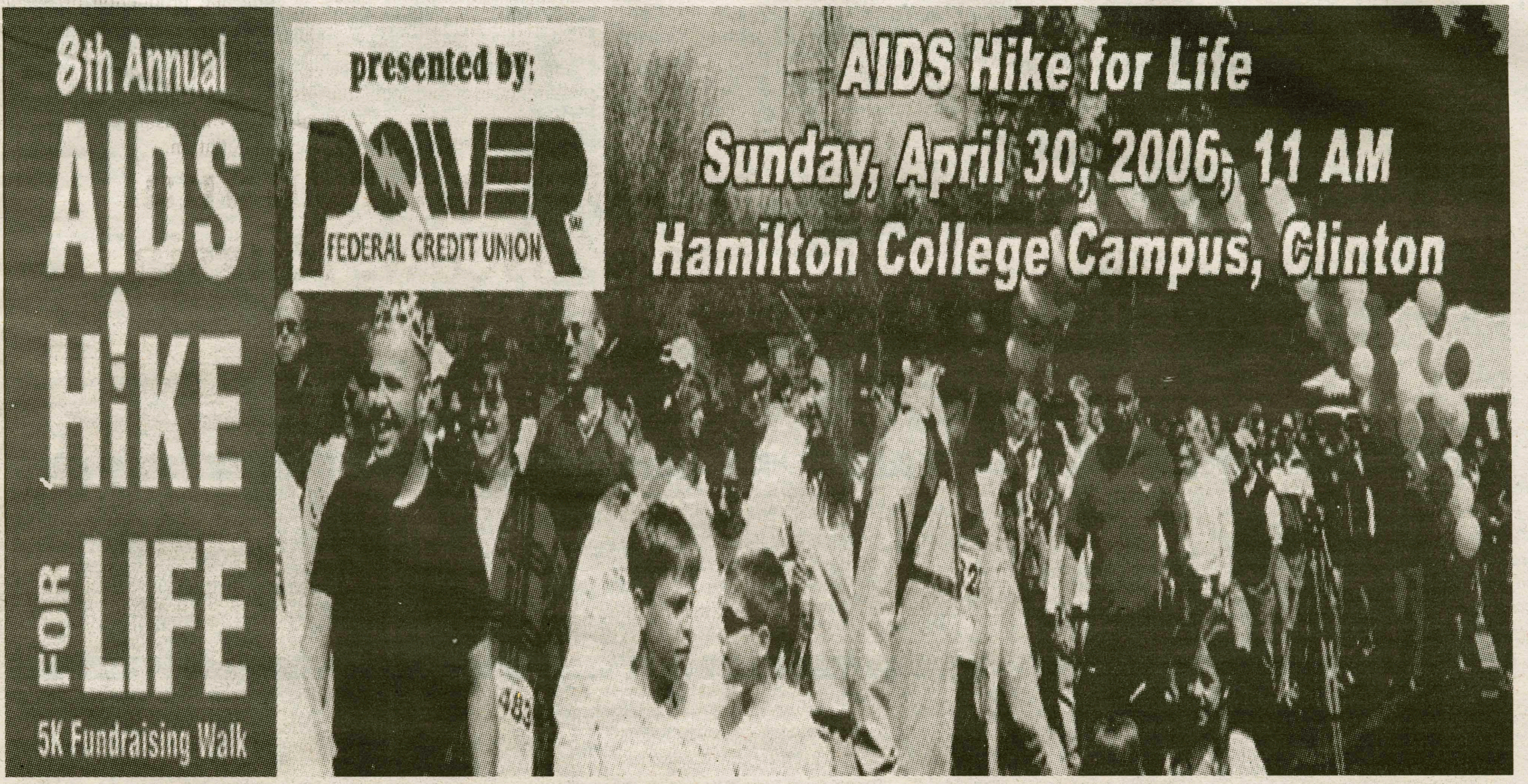
Darwin Award of the week

Parents often warn that firecrackers can blow your hand off, but as a 26-year-old Australian learned, they can also remove your gonads from the gene pool. An ambulance rushed to an Illawarra park after receiving reports that a man was hemorrhaging from his behind. The mercifully unidentified man had placed a lit firecracker between the cheeks of his buttocks, stumbled, and fell upon it.

"We do caution people against these acts," said a local policeman.

Emergency surgeon Dr. McCurdie said the resulting wound looked like "a war injury." The explosion was forced upward, "blasted a great hole in the pelvis, ruptured the urethra, and injured muscles," rendering the man incontinent as well as sexually dysfunctional. He survived to tell the tale, making him eligible for the dubious honor of a Living Darwin Award.

from Darwinawards.com



Please visit www.aidscommunityresources.com or call 1-800-475-2430 for more information.

Student-athletes recognized

PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM TAYLOR

by Jim Taylor
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Hundreds of events around the nation marked April 6 as the 19th Annual National Student-Athlete Day. On this special day, we honored student-athletes and the network of parents, coaches, teachers and school systems that make it possible for young people to strike a balance between academic and athletic achievement. The day is established by the National Consortium for Academics and Sports and Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society, and is co-sponsored by the NCAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) co-sponsored an event with the Department of Athletics to honor Hamilton's own outstanding scholar-athletes on April 20. Twenty-eight students (one from each of Hamilton's 28 varsity athletics teams) were honored at The Hub in Bristol Campus Center during a special luncheon attended by the student-athletes, their coaches and some of their favorite professors. The award recipients maintain an outstanding cumulative grade point average and make a significant contribution to their team. These 28 people (pictured with this article) exemplify what it means to be a successful student-athlete. They will be profiled on posters in the lobby of the Athletic Center during the coming weeks so the community may learn more about them and how they have managed these accomplishments.

The luncheon was a great event and a terrific step in the direction of meeting one of SAAC's main goals, which is to improve communication and interaction among athletes, coaches and professors. Indeed, the 28 recipients of the outstanding scholar-athlete award are proof that it *is* possible to be dedicated and loyal to both the academic and athletic arenas. They have displayed dedication and hard work to successfully juggle academic and athletic endeavors. These students deserve the admiration and congratulations of the Hamilton community for their perseverance, teamwork, self-discipline, commitment to goals and general pursuit of excellence.

The award winners are as follows: Luke Thornblade '06 (Men's Cross Country), Katie Riposta '06 (Women's Cross Country), Katelyn McGee '06 (Field Hockey), Jay Rishel '06 (Football), Mike Coffey '06 (Men's Soccer), Liz Roberts '06 (Women's Soccer), Meghan Rose '06 (Women's Tennis), Dee Martin '06 (Volleyball), Nick Jones '07 (Men's Basketball), Jessie Pisegna '06 (Women's Basketball), Warren Berkstresser '06 (Men's Hockey), Tierney Boisvert '07 (Women's Hockey), Chad Carta '06 (Men's Squash), Sarah Rienhoff '07 (Women's Squash), Michael Salmon '06 (Men's Swimming and Diving), Emily Clinkhammer '06 (Women's Swimming and Diving), Robert Group '06 (Men's Indoor Track and Field), Heather King '06 (Women's Indoor Track and Field), Eric Villanova '06 (Baseball), Kosta Popovic '06 (Men's Crew), Alexis Castrovinci '06 (Women's Crew), Mike Hayes '08 (Golf), Daniel Seeger '06 (Men's Lacrosse), Inga Stots '07 (Women's Lacrosse), Tracy Zaino '06 (Softball), Brad Polan '06 (Men's Tennis), Richard Schwam '06 (Men's Outdoor Track and Field), Allison Nichols '06 (Women's Outdoor Track and Field).

Hamilton hosts top seed Skidmore today

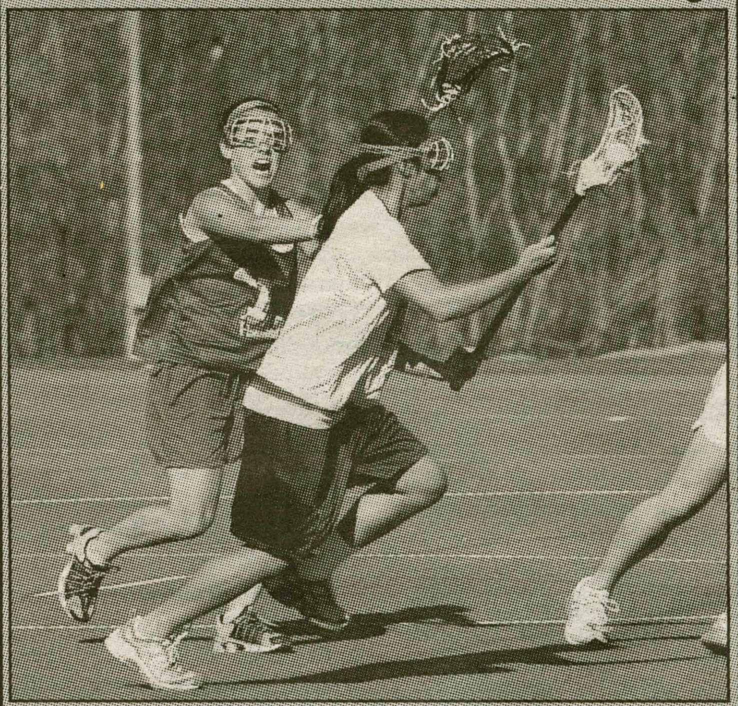


PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by Nick Rockwell '08
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's lacrosse team rebounded from their first league loss to William Smith last Friday with an impressive come from behind win at Rochester. Hamilton rallied from a three-goal second half deficit, winning 12-11 in this important Liberty League tilt. Even more impressive was the Buff and Blue's ability to beat a solid team on the road.

Co-captain Inga Stots '07 led the way, notching three goals for the Continentals; however, it was sophomore Jen McGowan who broke and 11-goal tie by striking the winning goal with just under three minutes remaining. Hamilton now stands at 5-1 in the league and 8-3 overall. Additionally, freshman standout Kaillie Briscoe was also all over the scorer's sheet, picking up two goals to go with a pair of assists. Fellow freshman Allie Sphall and Liz Longley '07 also tallied two goals apiece.

With the win, Hamilton sits at second place in the Liberty League standings, tied with William Smith. First place Skidmore comes to the Hill tonight for a huge contest slated to begin at 4 p.m. This weekend should provide the Conts with a solid barometer of their talent level before the playoffs begin. Come support the women as they look to move into first place.

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well.

	Nick Rockwell *Spectator* Sports Editor	Eileen Starrett *Spectator* Sports Editor	Ian Mandel *Spectator* Senior Editor	Emma Furman *Spectator* Editor-in-Chief	Brook Wolcott Senior Cycling Team
Season Record:	**63-49**	**59-41**	**63-49**	**50-62**	
NHL Playoffs					
Colorado @ Dallas, 4/22	Dallas	Colorado	Dallas	Colorado	Colorado
NY Rangers @ New Jersey, 4/22	Devils	Devils	Rangers	Rangers	Devils
Philadelphia @ Buffalo, 4/22	Philly	Buffalo	Philly	Philly	Philly
Montreal @ Carolina, 4/22	Carolina	Montreal	Carolina	Montreal	Montreal
NBA Playoffs					
Washington @ Cleveland, 4/22	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	Washington	Cleveland
Chicago @ Miami, 4/22	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami
Sacramento @ San Antonio, 4/22	Spurs	Sacramento	Spurs	Sacramento	Spurs
Denver @ LA Clippers, 4/22	Denver	Clippers	Clippers	Denver	Denver
MLB					
Chicago Cubs @ St. Louis, 4/22	St. Louis	Cubs	St. Louis	Cubs	St. Louis
LA Angels @ Oakland, 4/22	Oakland	Angels	Angels	Angels	Angels
NY Mets @ San Diego, 4/22	Mets	San Diego	Mets	Mets	Mets

Athlete of the Week: Kaitie Donovan '06

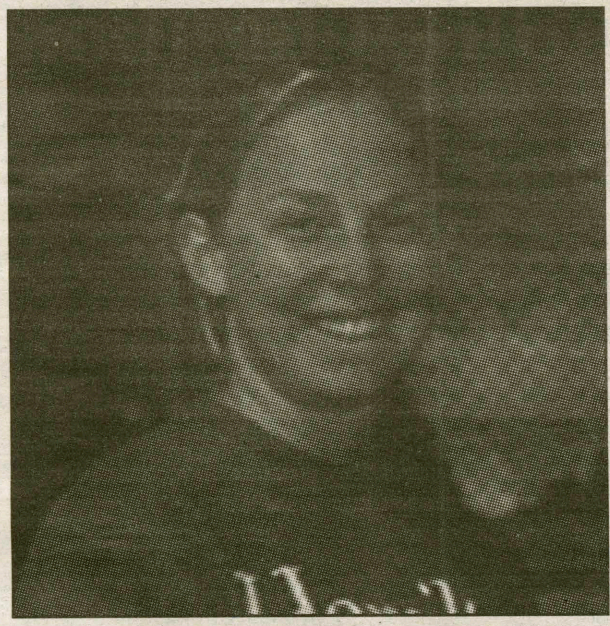


PHOTO COURTESY WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Greatest College Sports Memory/Achievement: Rookie of the Year

Please describe yourself in 1 word: Peaced.

Favorite Professor: Professor Bradfield because he always has a cheery good morning.

Favorite Celebrity: Brett Favre

Favorite Movie(s): "Braveheart" and "Rudy."

Favorite Book(s): "The Giver"

Full name: Kaitlin Kristen Donovan

High school/Hometown: Deerfield Academy (but proud to be a Cheesehead).

Birthday: 6/22/83

Concentration: Economics and Psychology

Location on Campus: Third floor science building or somewhere on "the loop."

Relationship Status: Funny you should ask……

Sport & Position/Events: Tennis. 2 singles, 1 doubles with the Colemanator (we hit mad tweeners).

Clubs/Groups/Activities: Psyched about psych…..

Greatest High School Sports Memory/Achievement: Making a game-winning shot at the last second of a basketball game and fans storming the court.

Favorite Food: Bananas and peanut butter.

Favorite Music: The dank kind and Cascada (when the time is right).

Favorite TV Show: "Squawk Box"

On campus job: Contributing to the domination of the third floor science center latenight scene.

Fondest Hamilton Memory: Too many to list, but top three are: Clinton pub crawl '06, Latenight Diner scandal '03, and every second spent with friends!

Best Hamilton Party You've Attended: Champagne Brunch at a correctional facility.

Last Movie You Saw in Theaters: "Harry Potter"

Elliptical or Treadmill? Treadmill

If you didn't play tennis what would you do on campus? Golf

Baseball heads to Williams

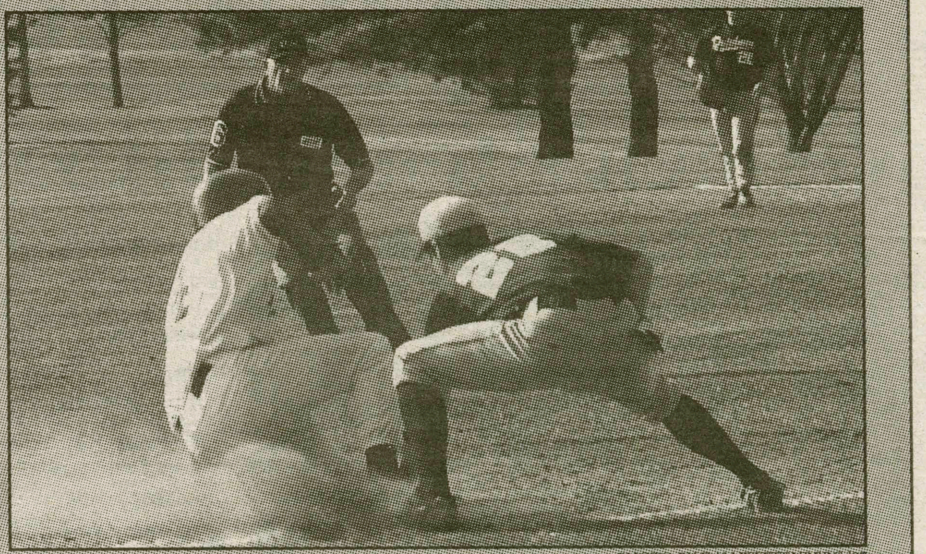


PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by TJ Reynolds '07
SPORTS WRITER

Hamilton struggled this weekend against Wesleyan, dropping all three games to the Cardinals. The three game series started on Friday afternoon. Hamilton managed to rally back in the seventh inning scoring six runs putting the Continentals on top, 8-5. Matt Hartnett '06 had two RBIs in the inning and Gideon Clark '09, Pat McGarry '07, Eric Villanova '06 and Pat Suarez '07 each drove in one run a piece. Dan Hood '08 had three hits the game, making him 6 for 10 in just two games. Despite the strong seventh inning, the lead did not last long. Wesleyan's offense let up Hamilton's pitching staff for ten runs in the top of the eighth. With two outs the Cardinals managed to scored nine runs, including two grand slams. The Continentals managed to put a couple more runs on the board but it was not enough and the Cardinals took the first game by a score of 15-10.

Saturday's double-header began with a seven inning game which the Continentals dropped 8-6. Dan Hood took the mound for the second game and pitched a gem. Hood, who basically has not pitched since Little League, threw a complete game and held the Cardinals scoreless through six. The Continentals were up 2-0 on two runs scored by Jim Nolan '07 going into the seventh inning. Wesleyan put the game winning hit through in the top of the ninth to complete the sweep.

Hamilton started their five game road trip on Tuesday as they traveled to Utica College. Hamilton had taken on Utica at home on April 6 and lost, 8-15. Utica's third baseman, John Tine, belted three homeruns in the process. The Continentals looked dominant as they led 11-2 going into the bottom of the fifth. The Continentals crumbled in the bottom of the fifth, allowing a staggering sixteen runs. Tine managed to hit two out of the park in the inning, and that was only half of the home runs given up in the inning. It is fair to say that Tine owns Hamilton's pitching staff the way Jordan owned Craig Ehlo in the 90s. Hamilton ultimately lost to the Pioneers 20-14. McGarry homered, doubled, scored four runs and drove in three. McGarry moved into first place on the program's all-time list with 71 runs and 70 runs batted in. Suarez had two hits in the game, including his second triple of the year. Tom Monfiletto '08 had two doubles and two runs.

Hamilton was on the road again for another non-conference game against St. Lawrence on Wednesday afternoon. John Moore '07 was 3 for 3 in the game with three RBIs. McGarry extended his hit streak to seven games with a double against the Saints. The Continentals, however, allowed seventeen runs on only nine hits and lost 17-5.

The Continentals (0-6 NESCAC, 7-18 overall) travel to Williams (3-3, 17-7) this weekend for a two game conference series.

Track & field hosts Invitational on Saturday

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by Eileen Starrett '07
SPORTS EDITOR

As the men's track team approaches the end of their season, the team is poised for a strong championship season. After three meets in seven days, not only has the team posted some of the top times in the state and NESCAC, but they have had more fun doing it. Under the guidance of Coaches Steve Bellona and Brett Hull, the squad has exploded on the track.

Notable achievements thus far include: Will Lynch '06 breaking the elusive 50 second mark in the 400 meters, Jesse Gaylord '06 breaking the monumental two minute mark in the 800 meters (edging out his younger brother Cam '09 in every race), Joe Sullivan '07 running a stellar 800 meters and Andrew Downey '06 throwing down a solid PR in his second to last Hamilton meet. Hopefully, with the team's last home meet approaching, Alan Guiney '08 will break four minutes in the 1500 meters.

As Steve Prefontaine always said, "I don't race to see who is the fastest, but to see who has the most guts." As long as the men's team takes this attitude into NESCACs and States, no one will be able to stop them.

The women's team won the Liberty League Championships last weekend for the first time since 2000. The Continentals barely beat rival St. Lawrence for the title. The women earned 183 points, St. Lawrence came in second with 178 and RPI had 167 points in third place. Union was a distant fourth with 77 points.

There were many spectacular performances from the Lady Conts on both the field and track. Hamilton earned an astounding 21 top three finishes at the meet. Notable performances were had by four event winners: Laura Belden '07 was victorious in the javelin, Rachel Bennek '07 was the event winner in the 800-meter run, Akilah Bond '09 won the triple jump and Rebecca Yaguda '09 claimed the pole vault.

Numerous other top eight finishers contributed to the large point total had by Hamilton in their victory. Bond also earned Liberty League honors as Rookie of the Week.

This weekend, Hamilton looks to host their annual Hamilton Invitational. Look for the Lady Conts to compete on Pritchard Track starting at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton, NY Volume XXXXVI Number 24

Spectator Sports

April 21, 2006

Women's tennis dispatches of Rochester easily

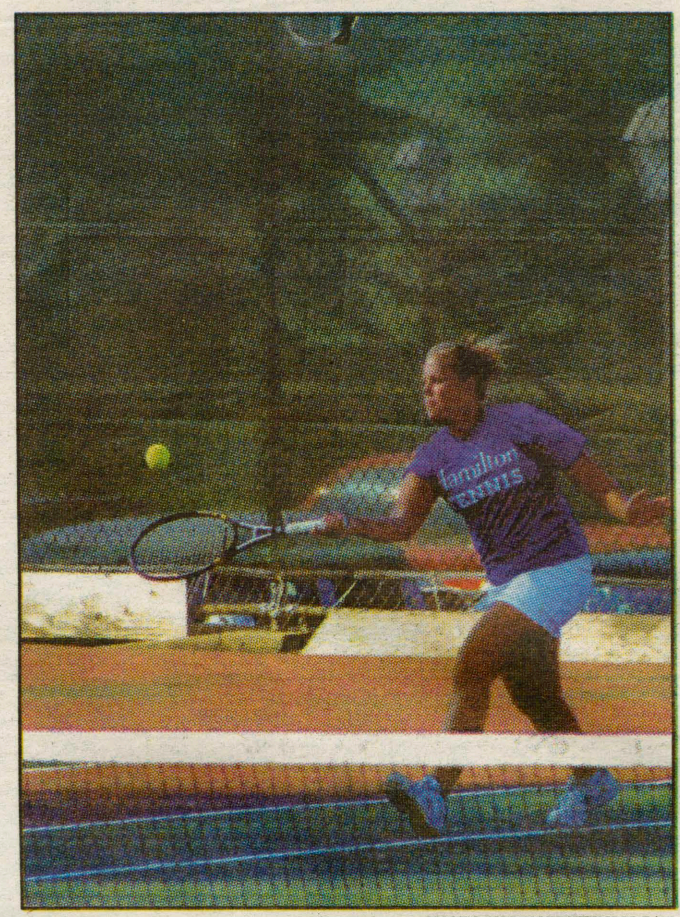


PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by Maura Donovan '09
SPORTS WRITER

The women's tennis team entered April refreshed by sunshine and prepared to finish their season strongly. First they traveled down to Wellesley, Massachusetts to face a trio of tough teams. Unfortunately the weekend brought bad weather, forcing the players inside and giving the home team a large advantage. On April 7, host Wellesley College upheld their intimidating reputation as one of the top teams in the country by winning all nine matches against Hamilton.

Saturday April 8, brought a doubleheader for the Continentals. First, they were victorious against Babson College (5-4). Sarah Coleman '08 had a strong win at first singles (6-1, 6-2). Marni Powers '08 was dominant at fourth singles (7-5, 6-1) , and also did well at second doubles with her sister Kara '08. The freshman team of Ashley Pardoe and Elizabeth Goheen took third doubles.

They key match for Hamilton, however, was at sixth singles by Ashley Pardoe '09. The first set went with the Babson player (2-6) but Pardoe came back strong to win the next two easily (6-1, 6-0). This match became the deciding point, which gave Hamilton the lead. The afternoon contest with Connecticut College was more difficult as the Camels walked away with all five wins. Overall, the team had a trying but successful weekend trip to Massachusetts.

Last week, the tennis team faced a more local competitor with a match on April 13 against the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY. This was an exciting and successful end to the traditional spring season for Hamilton. Beginning as an outdoor match, lightning soon set in, forcing play to continue indoors. The Continentals served up a 6-3 win with great matches at all ranks of the team.

Coach Jamie King was pleased with a "good performance by the team" and a "great finish to the season." He was especially impressed with the Powers twins' results, winning all of their matches. Kara took third singles (6-4, 6-0) while Marni pocketed the fourth singles match (6-2, 6-1). The sisters then came together to prove unstoppable at second doubles with an 8-2 win.

Coleman had a tough win at first singles after losing the first set (4-6). Coleman came back to take the second (6-2). The third set, however, proved to be a battle of heart. Coleman and her opponent played a grueling 18 games until Coleman finally came out on top with a score of eleven games to the other player's nine. Tennis requires sets to be won by two games, so matches can prove exhausting if two players are fairly even competitors as Coleman found out last week. Other victorious Hamilton players were Pardoe at fifth singles (6-1, 6-3) and the team of Pardoe and Goheen at third doubles (8-3).

Now the women are "in limbo" as Coach King waits for the NESCAC results to be posted. The top six of the 11 NESCAC teams will compete on April 28 for the championship at Williams College in Williamstown, MA. Coach King said he isn't sure of the team's chances in the tournament because they "don't play a NESCAC schedule, which will hurt in terms of the selection process." He is planning on changing to a more beneficial schedule next year.

Sarah Coleman '08 is also waiting to hear from the NCAA for individual championship information. Her current record of 22 wins and only four losses may be enough to qualify her for tournament play. Only the top eight women's players in the Northeast are picked to compete; only 32 are chosen from the entire country.

Either the team NESCAC tournament or Coleman's individual NCAA championship would be honors to play in. Now, the team must wait and hope for the standings to come out in their favor.

Men's lax improves to 8-2 with win over Hartwick

by John Cloonan '07
SPORTS WRITER

On a brisk Tuesday evening, under the bright lights of Campus Road Field, the men's lacrosse team battled in yet another close non-league contest with the Hawks of Hartwick College. With what started as a Hamilton controlled performance slowly developed into their fourth sudden death overtime. Though momentum seemed to have shifted in favor of Hartwick, the Conts held on to the victory with a final score of six to five. This win improves Hamilton's record to 8 – 2 overall, and their all time record against Hartwick to 13 – 9. This latest win marks the teams' third straight.

When the game began, confusion seemed to be the theme. Player substitutions, official whistles and even the booth workers were in disarray. After a few minutes of limbo, Hamilton took control with a quick goal. Between Clark Winter '07 (2g), Frasher Kempe '08 (2g), Ned Gilliss '08 and Alex Harris '08, the Conts fought through three quarters and had a commanding 5 -2 lead.

After Kempe's 17th goal this season at 6:03 in the third quarter, things started to fall apart. Hartwick capitalized on two penalty induced man advantages to pull within one goal. Then with 3:58 left in regulation, a top shelf rocket evened the score. Adding insult to injury, the Hawks received a two man advantage to almost finish off the game. With things looking grim for the Continentals, the steadfast Hamilton defense stood strong and forced the game into overtime. Fifty-two seconds later, Winter got his second goal of the night, and secured the W.

From the very beginning, Hamilton seemed to dominate the field. Despite some minor substitution problems, the play was visibly weighted in the Conts' favor. However, as the night continued, frustrations with the officials' penalty calls, began to take its toll. The aggravation pinnacled with a retracted goal by Nate Harris '08, due to an immaterial equipment malfunction. All in all, the team accumulated nine penalties for a variety of infractions; two of which occurred with a crucial 2:20 left in the game. This left the Conts rather vulnerable to a last minute game-winning goal. Luckily, the man advantage was not enough for Hartwick to capitalize.

Throughout the night, whether up or down a man, Hamilton continued to play aggressively. Jack Newton '06, threw a crushing hit midway through the game, which Hartwick's portly goalie had the pleasure of receiving. Ethan Shoemaker '07 was phenomenal between the pipes, making eight saves, and Travis Modic '07 had a memorable assist by nearly juking a Hawk player out of his shorts. The Continentals had an advantage in shots (37-31), and ground balls (41-22). The Hawks went 2-for-9 in extra-man opportunities and Hamilton was 0-for-9. Eric Luoma '06 was awarded an assist, four ground balls and won three of five face-offs. Additionally, Chris Schimpf '07 won three of four face-offs as the Conts won a total of seven out of eleven. Hamilton, now 5-1 in games decided by one goal, is gearing up for a playoff run.

When asked about the game, the team showed mixed emotions; they were happy to receive a victory, but disappointed that it was so close.

Chris "Big Baby" Piatelli '07 said, "We never should have let it get that close, we're a better team than that." Reasoning behind that lapse didn't necessarily fall squarely on Hamilton's gameplay.

Harris mentioned that "some of the calls were questionable... I deserved that goal." Despite not everything working out for the team, they did improve their record, and it was a win against a formidable opponent. Hartwick is believed to have one of the best midfield lines around. Hamilton, when at full strength, handled them with ease. If you missed Tuesday nights' game you missed out on an exciting contest. Nails were bitten, seats clenched and nerves were racked. The Continentals travel to Saratoga Springs, New York for an important Liberty League game against Skidmore College on Saturday, April 22, at 1 p.m.

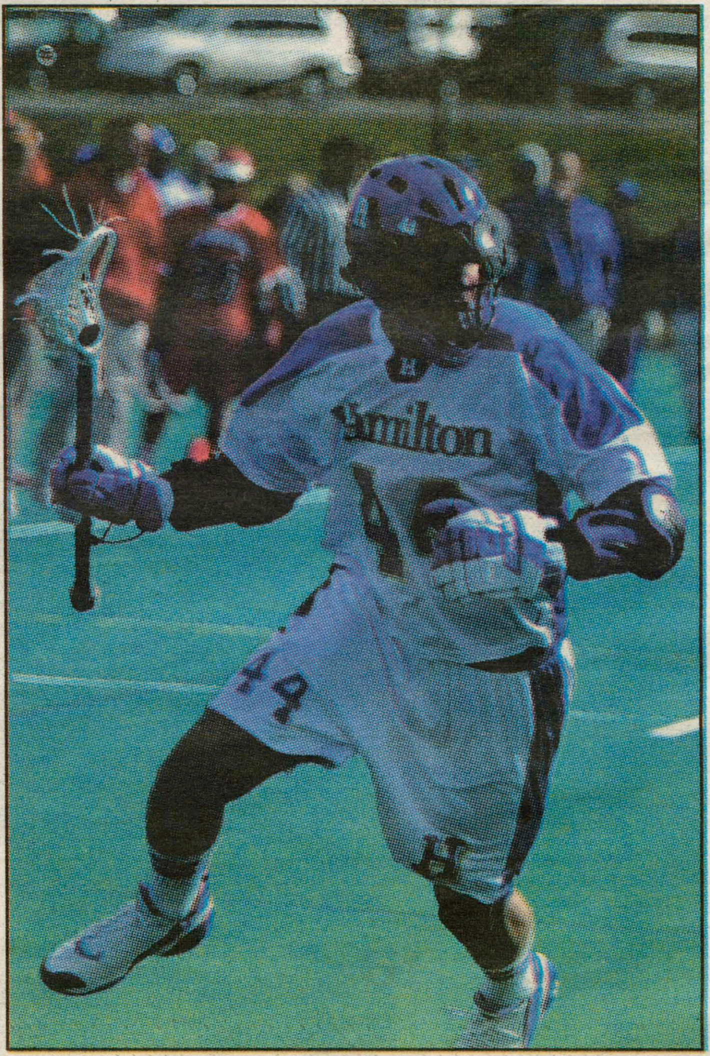


PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD